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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

TIMES OF GEORGE II.

Memoirs of Viscountess Sundon, Mistress of the Robes to Queen Caroline, Consort of George II., &c. By Mrs. Thomson, author of "The Life of the Duchess of Marlborough," &c. 2 vols. Colburn.

WHAT a lesson is here! How much may trifles and triflers illustrate the business of life—the fates of mankind—the history of the world! How low the high, how mean the proud, how mercenary the ostentatious, how hypocritical the pious, how venal the patriotic, how corrupt the many, how selfish the whole, and how contemptible a court existence let the *Memoirs of Lady Sundon* demonstrate! Yet "hers was peculiarly the power behind the throne: the unacknowledged keeper of the Queen's conscience, she has no place in the page of history, although all patronage—from the appointment of a dresser to the promotion of a bishop—seems to have been vested in her hands. That she was singularly courteous, charitable, and intelligent, appears evident from the many acts of kindness referred to in this correspondence, and from the general tone of those who addressed her. These letters afford a considerable insight into the interior of a court, possibly more interesting in its annals to many persons than what Horace Walpole calls 'a magisterial detail of political events.' Lord Sundon died in 1752, and Lady Sundon in Jan. 1, 1742. They left no issue, and their title, as well as Lady Sundon's merits, became extinct."

And what was her royal mistress? "Her endurance, not to say patronage of Lady Suffolk, was the everlasting stain upon the character of Queen Caroline. Nor were the dying hours of her Majesty so enlightened by true religion and benevolence as to efface some painful impressions of her motives and disposition, otherwise so laudable, nor to dispel the suspicions of the cavillers, that prudence had more influence than principle over her strong mind. She was certainly an actress; even her life was sacrificed to appearances, and to the habitual effort to please the King. She never refused a wish that his Majesty expressed; and every morning, at Richmond, walked several hours with him, when she had the gout, which she checked, by putting her foot into cold water. Those exertions hastened her fate; her bulk was now considerable, and the pain which she must have endured was exquisite; yet a simple operation might have saved her existence. Two persons only, besides Lady Sundon, were in possession of the fatal secret of the Queen's disease. These were, the King, and Madame Mailborne, the German nurse. At last, the truth was necessarily, but when it was too late, divulged to the faculty; mortification ensued, and all hope was abandoned."

And "Lady Sundon now sank into a total insignificance. No more fawning letters from the Bishop of Killala—no more tributes of adoration from Baron Wainwright—no more satirical chronicles from Lord Hervey, are to be met with after the Queen's death. All were silent—and silent is the chronicle of her after-existence."

The previous portion, so ably exhibited by Mrs. Thompson, is nevertheless a curious contribution to the history of a period already partially made known by Horace Walpole, Bubb Doddington, the Suffolk Papers, and other contemporaneous publications, and likely to be farther "shown up" by a diary of Lord Hervey's, referred to (p. 225, vol. ii.) as about to be edited by Mr. Wilson Croker.

Enlarged 76.]

The correspondence addressed to the favourite Mrs. Clayton, afterwards Lady Sundon, are from persons of every rank and profession, and almost all servile and flattering; and, as Mrs. T. observes, "acquires a considerable interest: it affords an insight into certain portions of state machinery; it shews us how family interest was applied; how the political world acted upon the religious world; and reveals the complex workings of a great social system,—at least in its details."

And it is added: "Upon the whole, it is impossible to read through this correspondence without wondering at the extraordinary influence which a woman of not very exalted abilities, but of great prudence, with good fortune, attained in her day: nor is the marvel less, that her power, extending over a period of many years, and affecting, during that time, the fortunes of so many individuals, should suddenly pass into oblivion, ere the hand that had dispensed so many favours had mouldered in the grave; or the objects on whom her favour had been bestowed had outlived the remembrance of their obligations."

That such a person should be the patron and medium of a great Church-party (the Low Church) is marvellous. She was of obscure parentage, a Miss Dyves, and married Mr. Clayton, who held an appointment in the Treasury, and was a perfect specimen of a stolid official. She was introduced to court on the accession of the Hanover line by the famous Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, and thence won her way to an eminence of no less power than that haughty lady had enjoyed with Queen Anne. She was strong enough to counteract Sir R. Walpole and the High-Church party, and was friendly to literary men and literature, as is witnessed by what we read of Hoadley, Steele, Stephen Duck, Drs. Samuel and Alured Clarke, Clayton, successively Bishop of Killala, Cork, and Clogher, Somerville of the Chase, Thomson, Savage (whose pardon from the sentence of death Mrs. T. ascribes to her interference), and other authors of the time. But as much of this will appear from the letters we have room to quote, we shall now proceed to this part of our easy task.

"Mrs. Clayton (says Mrs. T.) is acknowledged to have been an accomplished woman; and were we to believe all the various compliments addressed to her, we should ascribe to her every virtue, and every acquirement that woman could possess. After the accession of George the Second, as we have already said, she became the medium of all addresses to the Queen, whether they were offered up by courtiers, and sent from distant provinces, or penned by starving authors, from their garrets; or issued from the episcopal palaces by learned bishops; or scrawled by lords of the bed-chamber in the gloomy state of Kensington, or in the sleepy grandeur of Hampton Court. Voltaire even paid court to her; and the imperious Sarah of Marlborough condescended to solicit in her old age, a favour from the woman whom she had raised to power. All these letters speak of the courtesy and consideration which they received in reply. With the caution probably acquired by a courtier of many years' standing, most complaining epistles were destroyed; yet the mass of papers, consisting of seven thick volumes, from which this correspondence is selected, exhibits ample proofs of Mrs. Clayton's indefatigable attention to the wants and wishes of the applicants to her favour. Among these, we even find the mistress of George the First, the famous Madame Killmansack, from whom the following characteristic letter was received. Madame

Killmansack, created Countess of Darlington, is thus described by Walpole: 'She was corpulent and ample. Two fierce black eyes, large, and rolling beneath two lofty arched eyebrows, two acres of cheeks spread over with crimson—no wonder that a child dreaded such an ogress!'

'Madame Killmansack to Mrs. Clayton.

'Madam,—From a dull and silly woman, your ladyship cannot expect a fine letter; you remember I was so last night, and that proceeds from being perpetually alone. I told you, some time since, that I could be easy if I could have a good companion with me. You know too, dear madam, that I have a great mind to Mrs. Savie, and that I cannot have her for the pension only that a friend of ours was so obliging as to give me hopes of. Therefore, I take the liberty to propose an expedition, by which you could make me very happy; if it can be done without giving Mrs. Clayton the least trouble—that is, to prefer the gentleman, of which name and place is upon the enclosed paper. He will give to her 40*l.* a year as long as he enjoys, which will be as long as he lives, when he once is known, by the character they have given me of him. I am sure Mr. Clayton will thank me, being a most extraordinary accountant, and bred up to business of that nature. That and the little pension would make Mrs. Savie live with me; but do not think I will be tormenting you every day to get things to please me. This, I own, would do it extremely. I hope you think me so reasonable as to have the same sense of your inclination towards me, whether it can succeed or not; and that nothing will lessen the value I have for your dear person, and your charming conversation.—I am, dear Madam, your most humble servant,

'H. KILLMANSACK.'

"On the back of this epistle is written these significant words; 'Mrs. Clayton refused to do what she desired.' It was indeed far more Mrs. Clayton's policy to slight than to offend the favourite of the King, who was then alienated from his son."

We come to our court pictures. The following is from Mrs. Clayton's niece, Miss Dyves, maid of honour to the Princess Amelia:

"Richmond, August 31st, 1735.

"I received, dear aunt, your very kind letter, which was a greater pleasure to me than I can express; I sent the enclosed the next morning to Monsieur de Montendre. I saw him a day or two ago; he desired me to tell you the reason he did not write to you was, that he had nothing particular to tell you. The Prince, and every body but myself, went last Friday to Bartholomew Fair: it was a fine day, so he went by water, and I being afraid, did not go; after the fair, they supped at the King's Arms, and came home about five o'clock in the morning. It is with very great impatience I expect the twelfth of next month, as any body would do that waited for so great a pleasure as I do in that of seeing my dearest aunt. The Princess is very good to me, and I have great reason to hope she is not dissatisfied with my behaviour." Lord Hervey's sketches are, however, much more lively and amusing. *Ex. gr.:*

"St. James's, July 14, 1733.

"Madam,—I fear you will think me both unreasonable and absurd, in making use of the privilege you gave me to trouble your servants as a plea for troubling you; but it is quite impracticable for me to have taken possession of your house at Kew, upon the obliging offer you made me of a room there, without acquainting you that I had done so, and thanking you for the authority to do

it. The Court removes on Monday, after dinner, to Hampton Court, so that I shall no longer be obliged to lead the disagreeable stage-coachman's life which I have done during their stay at Richmond; and I assure you I have so little of the itinerant fashionable taste of many of my acquaintance, that I look on this negative pleasure of fixing with no small comfort. It has often been matter of the utmost astonishment to me, what satisfaction it can be to those people whom I see perpetually going from place to place (as others walk backwards and forwards in a room), from no other motive but merely going; for the first seem no more to prefer one corner of the world to another than the last do this or that end of the room; and the only way I can account for it is, that feeling an absolute cessation of thought, they keep their limbs in motion, as their last resource, to prevent their next heir seeing them decently interred. I have often thought the actions of these breathing machines are to the body just what dreaming is to the mind; as the one shews the limbs can act whilst thought is asleep, and the other, that our thoughts are not always at rest when our limbs are so. I fear you will think my pen moves to as little purpose as the first of these, and as incoherently as the last: I am sure it is with as little design as either; for when I began my letter, all I intended was to tell you I had lain a night at Kew, and was obliged to you for the permission to do so. However, notwithstanding the impertinent flippancy of writing three pages to say three words, if I knew any facts to entertain you with, I would launch out afresh; but there is nobody in town to furnish, invent, or relate any; and at Court, I need not tell you, madam, that between the people who cannot say any thing worth repeating, and the people who will not, one seldom hears any thing one cares to hear, more seldom what one cares to retain, and most seldom of all, what one should care to have said. If I can do you any service in this part of the world, you cannot oblige me more than by honouring me with your commands.—I am, madam, your most obliged, most obedient servant,

HERVEY.

"I beg my compliments to Miss Dyves and Mr. Clayton.

"Lord Hervey to Mrs. Clayton.

"Hampton Court, July 31, 1733.

"Madam,—I am going this afternoon, with the Duke of Richmond, to Goodwood, for three or four days; but cannot leave this place without returning you my thanks for the favour of your letter, a debt, perhaps, you would be more ready to forgive than receive; but as it is of that sort that one pays more for one's own sake than one's creditors, I plead no merit from the discharge of it, but the pleasure of taking any occasion to assure you how much I am your humble servant. I will not trouble you with any account of our occupations at Hampton Court. No mill-horse ever went in a more constant track, or a more unchanging circle; so that, by the assistance of an almanac for the day of the week, and a watch for the hour of the day, you may inform yourself fully, without any other intelligence but your memory, of every transaction within the verge of the Court. Walking, chaises, levees, and audiences fill the morning; at night, the King plays at commerce and backgammon, and the Queen at quadrille, where poor Lady Charlotte runs her usual nightly gauntlet—the Queen pulling her hood, Mr. Schutz sputtering in her face, and the Princess Royal rapping her knuckles, all at a time. It was in vain she fled from persecution for her religion: she suffers for her pride what she escaped for her faith; undergoes in a drawing-room what she dreaded from the inquisition, and will die a martyr to a court, though not to a church. The Duke of Grafton takes his nightly opiate of lottery, and sleeps as usual between the Princesses Amelia and Carolina; Lord Grantham strolls from one room to another (as Dryden says) like 'some discontented ghost that off appears, and is forbid to speak;' and stirs

himself about as people stir a fire, not with any design, but in hopes to make it burn brisker, which his lordship constantly does, to no purpose, and yet tries as constantly as if it had ever once succeeded. At last the King comes up, the pool finishes, and every body has their dismissal: their Majesties retire to Lady Charlotte and my Lord Liford; the Princesses, to Bildebec and Lony; my Lord Grantham, to Lady Frances and Mr. Clark; some to supper, and some to bed; and thus (to speak in the Scripture phrase) the evening and the morning make the day.—Adieu, dear madam, and believe me, without the formality of a conclusion, most sincerely yours,

HERVEY.

Of all the sycophantic, fulsome, and sordid correspondents of the favourite, her relative, the Bishop of Killala, was the most persevering and odious:

"The same unblushing subserviency (Mrs. T. justly remarks) which marks the former letters of Bishop Clayton goes through his whole correspondence. Mrs. Clayton's interest was able to command not only respect at home, but reverence to her favourites, even in Ireland. It might have been happier for the people of that unfortunate country, if her rulers at home had been occupied in benefitting her general condition, rather than in interesting themselves in the history of factions at the Castle."

[To be continued.]

LEIGH HUNT.

Men, Women, and Books; a Selection of Sketches, Essays, and Critical Memoirs, from his uncollected Prose Writings. By Leigh Hunt. 2 vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.

"MEN," the noblest study; "women," the most delicate and difficult; and "books," the most heterogeneous, form the subjects of the author's observations in these varied pages. The love of nature and of truth beams throughout; and there is a tone of feeling so harmonious that, even where censure is applied, the pleasurable sensation is not lost, for we feel that it is within the bounds of justice, and still more within the pale of severity.

In vol. 2, Suckling, Ben Jonson, Pope, and other authors, are treated with great acuteness and ingenuity, and the papers enlivened by anecdotes of an amusing order. We will drop into the essay on Cowley and Thomson for an exemplification. Sprat, we are told, says of the former (whom Mr. Hunt estimates more highly as a poet than he has recently been held), "that he was the 'most amiable of mankind;' and yet it is reported, that in his latter days he could not endure the sight of a woman! that he would leave the room if one came into it! Here is a case for the respectful consideration of the philosopher—the medical, we suspect. The supposed reason is, that he had been disappointed in love, perhaps ill-treated. But in so gentle a mind as his, disappointment could hardly have taken the shape of resentment and incivility towards the whole sex. The probability is, that it was some morbid weakness. He should have outwalked and diverted it, instead of getting fat and looking at trees out of a window; he should have gone more to town and the play, or written more plays of his own, instead of relieving his morbidity with a bottle too much in company with his friend the Dean. We suspect, however, from the portraits of Cowley, that his blood was not very healthy by nature. There is a young as well as an old portrait of him, by good artists, evident likenesses; and both of them have a puffy, unwholesome look; so that his flesh seems to have been an uncongenial habitation for so sweet a soul. The sweeter it, for preserving its dulcitudes as it did. This morbid temperament is, perhaps, the only difference in their natures between two men, in whom we shall proceed to notice what appears to us a remarkable similarity in every other respect, almost amounting to a sort of identity. It is like a metempsychosis without a form of change; or only with such as would naturally result from a difference of times.

Cowley and Thomson were alike in their persons, their dispositions, and their fortunes. They were both fat men, not handsome; very amiable and sociable; no enemies to a bottle; taking interest both in politics and retirement; passionately fond of external nature, of fields, woods, gardens, &c.; bachelors,—in love, and disappointed; faulty in style, yet true poets in themselves if not always the best in their writings, that is to say, seeing every thing in its poetical light; childlike in their ways; and, finally, they were both made easy in their circumstances by the party whom they served; both went to live at a little distance from London, and on the banks of the Thames; and both died of a cold and fever, originating in a careless exposure to the weather, not without more than a suspicion of a previous 'jollification' with 'the Dean' on Cowley's part, and great probability of a like vivacity on that of Thomson, who had been visiting his friends in London. Thomson could push the bottle like a regular *bon vivant*; and Cowley's death is attributed to his having forgotten his proper bed, and slept in a field all night, in company with his reverend and jovial friend Sprat. Johnson says that, at Chertsey, the villagers talked of 'the drunken Dean.' But in one respect, it may be alleged, Cowley and Thomson were different, and very different; for one was a Tory, and the other a Whig. True,—nominally, and by the accident of education; that is to say, Cowley was brought up on the Tory side, and Thomson on the Whig; and, loving their fathers and mothers and friends, and each seeing his cause in its best possible light, they naturally adhered to it, and tried to make others think as well of it as they did themselves. But the truth is, that neither of them was Whig or Tory, in the ordinary sense of the word. Cowley was no fonder of power in the understood Tory sense, than Thomson was of liberty in the restricted, unprospective sense of the partisans of King William. Cowley was for the *beau idéal* of Toryism; that is, for order and restraint, as being the only safeguards of liberty; and Thomson was for a liberty and freedom of service, the eventual realisation of which would have satisfied the most romantic of Radicals."

But why quote about Whigs, Tories, and Radicals now, when there are no such things; when party is so mixed and mingled that the whole *pot pourri* seems to be a measure of ingredients called the *Liberal*, and the race of ambition consists in the different lengths to which men are inclined to go, or would go, for the sake of power, in the profession and direction of *liberality*?

Mr. Hunt also gives us some pleasant critiques on English poetesses, on stage marriages, on Lady Mary Wortley Montague, Pepps, Madame de Sévigné, &c., and his other miscellanies of light and cheerful reading; but as they have appeared before in other shapes, it would only lead us into familiar repetitions to reprint them. All we shall add, therefore, is, that a more charmingly amusing and instructive collection of literature, taste, and information, can no where be found.

MARY BEATRICE OF MODENA.

Lives of the Queens of England. By Agnes Strickland. Vol. X. H. Colburn.

In this volume of her popular labours, Miss Strickland continues the biography of Mary Beatrice of Modena, the widow of James II., and an object of much admiration and eulogium to the writer. Her veneration for the memory of her husband, and her religious devotedness, equal to his, are no doubt traits of elevated principle; but their indulgence, especially the latter, served to confirm the loss of three crowns which might have been restored to her family but for their influence on her conduct. Miss S. seems rather to avoid pointing this truth, but still it gleams through her narrative too clearly to be mistaken. Leaving the political question, however, and considering not the Queen of the Regency, but the Woman, every one, we think, must sympathise in her trials and sufferings, both mental and physical. These the author has mi-

notely traced with a feeling hand, and from the Chaillet correspondence and other inedited sources produced a portrait of much original interest. And it is painfully increased by a view of the intrigue, incapacity, and treachery by which she was surrounded during the whole eventful period of her widowhood, when the fluctuating fortunes of her race depended upon the turn of a party, or the pivot of an accident which might occur on any passing day. But it was otherwise ordained; and the exile was gathered to the tomb of her husband in a foreign land.

As Miss Strickland adheres affectionately to her memory, so does she deem to obliquely the memory of William III., and is little more lenient towards the unflinching conduct of his consort, whose life is begun in this volume, wherein it occupies the last 130 of the 416 pages. But we will only lend a few illustrations to the elder Queen, beset by sorrows and troubles, including incurable cancer, and humiliating poverty. The occurrences on the death of William, in 1702, and the line adopted or neglected by those whom it most deeply concerned, are thus treated by the author:

"This event (the King's death) had been long expected, and eagerly anticipated by the friends of the exiled royal family, as the epoch of a counter revolution, in favour of the son of James II. Burnett complains that the young prince had a strong party in England, who were eager to place him on the throne.* In Scotland, the dread of a popish sovereign had become secondary to the fear of seeing the ancient realm degraded into a province to England. The health of the representative of the royal Stuarts had been publicly drunk, by the title of James VIII., and that of Mary Beatrice as 'the queen-mother.' Ireland only required a leader to rise and proclaim her son from one end of the Green Isle to the other as James III.; yet Anne succeeded to the throne of the three realms, on the death of William III., as peacefully as if there had been no such person in existence as a brother, whom a closely-balanced moiety of her subjects considered their king *de jure*. That no effort was made in behalf of that prince by the Jacobite party, stimulated by the regent-court of St. Germain, and supported by his powerful allies, the kindred monarchs of France and Spain, has been regarded as an inexplicable mystery; but, like many other historical problems, may be explained by a little research. From the inedited Chaillet correspondence, it appears that Mary Beatrice, overwhelmed with the difficulties and perplexities of her position, and, above all, with the feverish excitement of the crisis, was attacked with a dangerous illness just before the death of William, which brought her to the verge of the grave, and completely incapacitated her from taking any part in the deliberations of her council, on the momentous question of what ought to be done with regard to her son's claims to the crown of Great Britain. Her life depended on her being kept quiet, because of the violent palpitations of the heart, and other alarming symptoms, with which her illness was accompanied. Her cabinet, torn with conflicting jealousies and passions, could agree on nothing; so, of course, nothing was done; and, before she was in a state to decide between the opposing counsels of the rival ministers, Middleton and Perth, her step-daughter, Anne, was peacefully settled on the throne, and the hopes of royalty were for ever lost to her son and his descendants. The convalescence of Mary Beatrice was tedious, and her recovery was impeded by the fasts and other austerities which she practised, till her spiritual director, Father Ruga, was compelled to interfere, as we find by a letter from that ecclesiastic to Madame Priolo, dated March 15th, in which he says, 'that he has given the ladies Strickland and Molza to understand the opinions of her Majesty's physicians and surgeons on this subject, and that he shall do everything in his power for the preservation of a health so precious. However,' continues

he, 'the Queen has desisted from the mortification of her body in obedience to those councils, and is following the orders of her physicians and my directions. She has begun to go out for a walk after dinner, and they have taken measures for preventing the importunities of her officers about audiences.* Almost the first use the royal invalid made of her pen, was to write the following brief note to her friend, Angelique Priolo, which bears evident traces of her inability for application to public business; but, as usual, she appears more troubled at the sufferings of others than her own:—

'St. Germain, 13th of April.
'I know not whether I shall have strength to write to you, my dear mother, for this is the first letter I have attempted since I quitted you. I am in pain for our poor dear *déposée*. I send my physician to see her, and render me an exact account of her state. Embrace her tenderly for me. I pray for her with all my heart. The physician will give you an account of my poor health, which, I believe, will not permit me to pass the festivals with you, as I could have wished, but it is not often that I can do as I would. I am not strong enough to tell you more. I am yours, my dear mother, with all my heart, and the same to my dear portress.

'Directed, For our dear Mother.'†

"In a letter of a later date, she writes more at length, and enters into some few particulars of her illness. From one allusion, it appears that her ecclesiastics had been amusing her with an account of the miracles said to have been wrought through the intercession of her deceased consort. Accounts that were at first very cautiously received by Mary Beatrice. It is, on the whole, a very curious letter:

'At St. Germain, this 2d of May.
'At length, my dear mother, I find a moment of time and enough health to write to you. It is certain that I have had a very bad cold for some days past. The nights of Friday and Saturday were so bad, I having passed them almost entirely in coughing, and with palpitations of the heart, that the doctors at last resolved to bleed me, of which they have no reason to repent, for I am now quite well, not having had any more of the cough, and the palpitations of the heart have been much less; but this last night has been the best, and I can say the only entirely good one that I have had for eight months. But enough of my poor body. As for my heart, it is in the same state as it was when I left you, never better but often worse, according to the things which happen in the day. These are always wearisome to me, and very disagreeable. I have had, however, the day before yesterday, the pleasure of seeing the King (Louis XIV.) for an hour and a half, and yesterday Madame de M— was here nearly two and a half. But in truth their affairs are not pleasant, and they have throughout a bad aspect; but God can change all that in one moment when it shall please him, and he will do it if it be for his glory and for our good. It is this only that should be asked of him, without wishing for any thing else. I am impatient to see the brother of the curé of St. Poursain. I hope that you will send him to me soon. I have seen about the conversion of souls, which is a greater miracle than the healing of bodies, attributed to the intercession of our holy King, and which gave me pleasure, although I am not so sensible of it as I could wish. Alas, I know not of what I am made; the only sensibility that remains in me is for pain. But I am obliged to you, my ever dear mother, for the holy jealousy you have of my love to God. Beseech him to renew it in this poor heart, which, after all, is devoid of rest when it is not occupied with him.‡

"The royal widow of England goes on to speak of a subject of distressing import to her, poverty:

* "Inedited letters in the Archives au Royaume de France."
† "Ibid."

‡ "Autograph letters of Mary Beatrice in the Archives au Royaume de France."

'I am ashamed,' she says, 'of not having sent you all the money that I owe you. I will do it the first opportunity. I dare not tell you the state I am in for want of money; it would give you too much pain.' It seems, however, as if a present to the convent was to be extracted out of the narrow finances of the royal devotee at this most inconvenient season—a present for which the abbess was to advance the purchase-money on her own account. 'Let the veil of the chalice, and all the other necessary things, be provided,' continues her Majesty, 'for it must be done, and in a few days you will be paid. Adieu, my dear mother; in three weeks you shall see us, if it should please God that my poor children be well.* The holy ladies of Chaillet had sent an offering from their garden to the Queen; for she says, in her postscript, 'the salad was admirable, and the flowers very beautiful. I hope that the King, my son, and my daughter, will thank you for them by Lady Almond; but I always do so, both for them and me. I am sorry,' she adds, 'that your nephew has not got any thing. He must humble himself, and not attach himself to things of this earth, for all fail.' It was about this period that the dreadful malady which had appeared a few months before King James's death, began to assume a painful and alarming form. When her Majesty consulted the celebrated Fagon on her case, and entreated him to tell her the truth, without reserve, he frankly acknowledged that the cancer was incurable; but assured her, at the same time, that her existence might be prolonged for many years, if she would submit to a series of painful operations, and adhere strictly to the regimen he would prescribe. She replied, 'that life was too wearisome to her to be worth the trouble of preserving on such terms! but, repenting of her passionate exclamation, as an act of sinful impatience, she added, 'that she would endeavour to conform herself to the will of God, and was willing to do every thing her physicians required of her.†

It was most unfortunate for her son that his mother was so ill and so pious at this most important juncture of his affairs. In vain did the Duke of Perth, the Prince's governor, urge energetic measures, and shew her "a letter from the Marquess of Drummond, his eldest son, assuring him that the principal lords of Scotland were ready to take up arms in favour of their hereditary sovereign, if he might only be permitted to appear among them; nay, more, that a deputation from them was ready to make a voyage to France, to tender fealty in person to the young king."‡

She feared for his safety; and we are told: "The terrors of the act of attainer that hung over her boy were always present to her. She remembered the fate of another disinherited and rejected Prince of Wales of disputed birth, 'the gallant, springing young Plantagenet,' Edward of Lancaster, stabbed by ruthless hands in the presence of the victorious sovereign, whose crown he had presumed to challenge as his right. There was also the unforgotten scaffold of the youthful Conradin of Swabia, the fearful theme of many a tale of poetry and romance in her native Italy, to appal the heart of the fond mother; and she obstinately and with impassioned emotion reiterated her refusal to allow her boy to incur any personal peril during his minority, and while he remained under her guardianship.§ Severely as the conduct of Mary Beatrice at this juncture has been censured in the Perth Memorials,|| it must, at any rate, exonerate her from the calumnious imputation of having imposed a spurious heir on England, since,

* "Autograph letters of Mary Beatrice in the Archives au Royaume de France."

† "Chaillet mss. in the Archives au Royaume de France."

‡ "Inedited Memorial of the Duke of Perth, in the Bibliothèque du Roi."
§ "Posthumous Memorial of the Duke of Perth on the Causes of the Political Errors of the Court and Regency of St. Germain during the Minority of the Son of James II. Inedited mss. in the Bibliothèque du Roi."

|| "Portfolio of Inedited State Papers in the Bibliothèque du Roi. St. Germain mss."

* "History of his own Times."

if she had been capable of the baseness imputed to her by Burnet, Fuller, Oldmixon, and their servile copyists, she would have used her political puppet in any way that appeared likely to tend to her own aggrandisement, without being deterred by inconvenient tenderness for an alien to her blood, especially as her young daughter would be the person benefited by his fall, if he became a victim. With the prospect of a crown for her daughter, and the dignity and power of a Queen-regent of Great Britain for herself, would such a woman, as she has been represented by the above writers, have hesitated to place a supposititious prince in the gap for the accomplishment of her selfish object. But the all-powerful instincts of nature were obeyed by Mary Beatrice, in her anxious care for the preservation of the son of her bosom—that unerring test whereby the wisest of men was enabled to discern the true mother of the child from the impostor who only pretended to be so. The leaven of selfish ambition had no place in the heart of the fallen Queen. She was ardently desirous of seeing her son recalled to the throne, which she at any rate regarded as his rightful inheritance, and her portionless daughter recognised as Princess Royal of Great Britain, and, after her brother, presumptive heiress of the realm,—a station which the extraordinary beauty and fine qualities of the young Louisa promised to adorn. As for herself, she had felt the pains and penalties of royalty too severely to desire the responsibility of governing her former subjects in quality of queen-regent. The genuine simplicity of her character, and the warmth of her affections, are unaffectedly manifested in the following letter to her friend Angelique :

‘St. Germain, this 17th of July.
‘I have but one moment, my dear mother, to tell you that I am very well, and my children also. I went to Marl on Thursday, and found M. de M— (Madame de Maintenon) ill enough; but, thank God, she finds herself at present much better. Lady Tyrconnel assures me that all the embroidery will be done for the beginning of September. I beg you not to spare my purse about it, for things of that kind should not be done at all, unless they be well done; and for this, above all, which regards the dear and holy king, I would give to my very chemise. I rejoice that our sick are cured, and that the ceremony of the new novice has been so well accomplished. I am hurried to the last moment. Adieu! I embrace you at the foot of the cross.

‘Superscribed, ‘To the Mother Priolo.’’

‘The embroidery mentioned by Mary Beatrice in this letter, and which she exhorts the abbess not to spare expense in having well executed, was for the decoration of the tribune in the conventual church of Chaillot, where the heart of her deceased consort, King James, was enshrined, and was to be placed there at the anniversary of his death. That day was kept by Mary Beatrice as a strict fast to the end of her life, and it was commemorated by the *religieuses* of Chaillot with all the pompous solemnities of the Romish ritual. A vast number of persons, of whom the aged Bishop of Autun was the foremost, asserted ‘that they had been cured of various maladies by touching the velvet pall that covered his coffin, and entreating the benefit of his prayers and intercessions.’ These superstitious notions were, doubtless, the result of highly excited imaginations, wrought upon by the enthusiastic reverence with which the memory of this unfortunate monarch was held in France. The grief of his faithful consort was beguiled by these marvellous legends, although she at first listened doubtfully, as if conscious of her own weak point, and dreading imposition; but the instances became numerous, and being attested by many ecclesiastics of her own church, she soon received them with due unction, and flattered herself that the time was not far distant when the name of the departed object of her undying love would be

• “Autograph letter of the widow of King James II. in the Archives au Royaume de France.”

added to the catalogue of royal saints and confessors in the Romish calendar.”

When the Expedition, or rather semblance of an Expedition, took place in 1708, the account of the royal residents at Saint Germain is not the least characteristic portion of their history :

“The Princess Louisa, who was passionately attached to her brother, and earnestly desired to see him established in the regal dignity, which she regarded as his right, fully shared her mother’s anxiety on this occasion. As soon as the Queen was able to bear the journey, they both proceeded to Chaillot, fondly imagining that the prayers which they and their ladies were incessantly preferring to God, for his personal safety and success, would be more efficacious if offered up in the tribune of the conventual church there, where the hearts of Queen Henrietta Maria, and her son, King James, were enshrined. The all-powerful affection of Mary Beatrice for her deceased husband persuaded her that his spirit, which she firmly believed to be in a state of beatitude, always united with her in prayers to God for the attainment of any object of peculiar interest to both, such as the recovery from sickness, the spiritual enlightenment, or personal safety of their children. The day the Queen and her daughter arrived at Chaillot, it was confidently reported in Paris that the Prince had succeeded in effecting a descent on the coast of Scotland, and had been well received. The next morning Mary Beatrice told the nuns that she had dreamed a little old woman came and said to her : ‘No; he will not land this time.’* Now, although it was evident that the Queen’s nerves were unbraced by sickness, anxiety, fasting, and prayer, the vision of the oracular little old woman made a great impression, both on the community and her ladies, and they all began to relate stories of signs and omens. ‘I can remember well,’ said the Princess Louisa, ‘though I was not quite four years old at the time, that when the late King, my father, left St. Germain to join the armament at Calais, expecting to embark for England, I dreamed that I saw him return in a blue cloak, instead of the scarlet coat he wore when he went away, and that he said to me, ‘This place must be my England.’† It was not the first time that the dream of the youngest daughter of James II. had been related in that circle; for even in her infancy, it had been recorded as a solemn revelation, that the exiled King was to behold his native land no more, but to end his days at St. Germain. To imagine any thing of the kind into an augury, is almost to ensure its fulfilment. James II. allowed more than one good opportunity for effecting a landing in England, in the absence of the rival sovereign, to slip, from the idea that a decree had gone forth against his restoration. The dream of Mary Beatrice had, in a manner, prepared the ladies of her court for the news of the failure of the expedition. The cause of its failure remains to this day among the unexplained mysteries of history.”

[Conclusion in our next].

ASSAM AND ADJACENT TRIBES.

[Third notice: conclusion.]

THE Nagas consist of numerous tribes, and inhabit the south-eastern hills. “They are a very uncivilised race, with dark complexions, athletic sinewy frames, hideously wild and ugly visages: their faces and bodies being tattooed in a most frightful manner by pricking the juice of the bella nut into the skin in a variety of fantastic figures. They are reckless of human life; treacherously murdering their neighbours often without provocation, or at best for a trivial cause of offence. The greater number of the Nagas are supposed to be in a very destitute state, living almost without clothing of any kind. Their poverty renders them remarkably free from any prejudices in respect of diet: they will eat cows, dogs, cats, vermin, and even

• “Inedited Memorials of Mary Beatrice d’Esté, Archives au Royaume de France.”

† “Ibid.”

reptiles, and are very fond of intoxicating liquors. Amongst a people so thoroughly primitive, and so independent of religious prepossessions, we might reasonably expect missionary zeal would be most successful; for the last eight years, however, two or three American baptist missionaries have in vain endeavoured to awake in them a sense of the saving virtues of Christianity.

“The superstition of the Nagas is strikingly exhibited in the great attention paid by them to all signs of good and evil, before they attempt the execution of any project: whether it be to prepare the land to receive the seed, to proceed on hunting or fishing excursions, or to enter upon any war expedition. On these occasions the Khonba, Sundekae, and Khonsae, assemble the people, and a grand consultation is held between the chief ruler and the elders of the village, in order to divine the most auspicious moment, and to ascertain whether the affair under consideration will turn out favourably or otherwise. To aid the deliberation, new-laid eggs are procured, which they address in these terms:—‘O eggs, you are enjoined to speak the truth, and not to mislead us by false representations.’ The eggs are then perforated and roasted on a fire, and the yolk is minutely examined: if it appears entire, the omen is considered good; if broken, the reverse, and auspicious for their enemies. In this conclusion the senate are likewise confirmed by a peculiar appearance of the white of the egg. Another simple mode of divining the propriety or expediency of carrying out certain plans is by burning the Bujal bamboo. Should it crackle and fall out of the fire on the left side, it is a good omen; should it fly out on the right, the event is accepted as a warning of failure and disaster. By these simple and strange proceedings are the acts of these people guided.

“When the Nagas purpose taking vengeance on a neighbouring tribe, the Khonba assemble the elders of the village; and, in accordance with established customs, the omens being consulted and proving propitious, a plan to cut up their enemies by surprise is decided on. Each man provides himself with a spear, sword, bamboo choong, a hollow joint of the bamboo filled with water, and a small basket of rice; and, the party being formed, set out in the day towards the frontier of the enemy who is to be attacked. At night they cross over and occupy a favourable position in ambush, surrounding the enemy’s village. There they take their repast, and when the cock first crows on the following morning, they rush, with great shouting, into the village, and cut up every body they meet with; sparing neither old infirm men, nor helpless women, nor children: even the cows, pigs, and poultry of the foe are slaughtered. Sometimes the victors remain on the spot two or three days, but generally return to their own village on the same day; taking with them the heads, hands, and feet of those they have massacred: these they parade about from house to house, accompanied with drums and gongs, throwing liquor and rice on the heads, and uttering all manner of incantations: saying, ‘Call your father, mother, and relations to come here and join you in eating rice and drinking spirits, when we will kill them with the same sword.’ They then sing, dance, and perform all manner of antics; pierce and mangle the heads of their enemies, and again with curses enjoin them to summon their whole race to suffer the same ignominious treatment. In the massacre, one of the Nagas may have, perhaps, particularly distinguished himself by evincing great ferocity in cutting off more heads than any of his party; which circumstance he fails not to bring to the notice of his assembled friends. Stalking out before them he challenges them to mark his deeds, and with many songs of boisterous mirth and audacious boasting, he drags the heads of his enemies about in the most contemptuous manner, proclaiming his own triumph somewhat after this fashion:—‘In the world I am the most powerful and courageous;

there is none equal to me. I am the greatest of all men. No one (pointing to the skulls of his enemies) can perform such deeds. Like to the clouds that thunder and hurl down fire-balls into the water to the destruction of the fish,—like to the tiger who leaps out to seize the deer,—like to the hawk who pounces down on the chickens and carries them off, do I cut up every one, and carry off their heads; and with these weapons (dashing them together, to produce a clashing noise) I have killed such and such persons: yes, I have killed them. You know my name. The greatest beast of the forest, the elephant, I first destroy, and after that all other animals too insignificant to mention. Such a hero am I, there is no one equal to me,' &c. &c. The same scene is enacted for three or four successive days; when the heads being hacked and sufficiently danced about to satiate Naga revenge, they are suspended from the branches of Nabor trees. After this, the ceremony of tattooing the body is performed, and a most severe operation it is. The burnt ashes of a pot are pricked into the skin with the thorns of the cane: a great quantity of blood exudes, and the body swells to a great size. Being previously thrown into a state of stupid intoxication, the patient is left to welter in the dirt and blood for three days, unconscious of his condition. After this operation, the young sprouts of the bhat-teeta tree being well pounded, are smeared over the wounds, and in the course of twenty-five days the patient is able to resume his avocations; upon which a number of pigs and fowls are killed, and a great feast is given; the heads of the enemies being brought down from the trees and strewed out upon a platform before the populace in the court, or raj moorung. For a whole month from the day of the massacre, the Nagas daily sing the war-song quoted above, and dance and manifest the greatest excitement and delight.

"On the question being once put to the Nagas whether they would like to become the subjects of the Company, they promptly replied,—'No: we could not then cut off the heads of men and attain renown as warriors, bearing the honourable marks of our valour on our bodies and faces.' If a Naga happens to be suddenly surprised, and cut off by the inhabitants of a neighbouring village, his corpse is quickly taken up by his friends and placed on a platform in the jungles near the road. At the expiration of three or four days they perform some ceremonies, and wait till a favourable opportunity occurs for avenging his death. The purpose is never relinquished, though its execution may unavoidably be tardy: by day and night they lie in ambush in the jungle, or on the plains near the roads, till they can pounce upon some unwary individual of the enemy. His murder is then communicated to his friends in a singular way. Forty or fifty Nagas, armed with wooden clubs, strike a large hollow piece of wood called a tomkhong, from which a loud, terrific sound proceeds, which gives token to the enemy that one of their tribe has died in acquittance of the debt of revenge. To such an extent does this vindictive spirit prevail, that the Nagas will wait for two or three generations devising plans for decapitating a member of a tribe who has murdered one of their clan; and when the opportunity of vengeance offers, they are sure to take advantage of it, regardless of the personal innocence of the man whom they select as the victim of their fury. The death of the victim is hailed with dance and song, and the liveliest demonstrations of joy: even the old men, women, and children seem in raptures at the announcement of the joyful tidings that their tribe has succeeded in taking revenge.

"Ten days after the birth of a child the hair of the infant is shorn off, and the parents perform several ceremonies, inviting all their friends to a grand feast, on which occasion the child is named. On proceeding to field work the mother ties the child to her back, and whilst at work the infant is placed on the ground. When the child is about a

year old it is left at home in the village, and the parents pursue their avocations unattended by their little charge. At the age of five or six years some of the Nagas wear a lungtee (a small piece of cloth) round the waist. On attaining the age of nine or ten years the boy is called a moorunga, and from that time no longer resides with his parents, but, with all the youths of the village, takes up his abode at the moorung, a large building set apart for this especial purpose. The parents, however, still continue to provide him with food, and he is obedient to their will, assisting them in cultivating their fields. He carries a sword and spear, and wears the Naga habiliments. At fifteen or sixteen years of age he begins to be dissatisfied with his existence in the moorung, and makes arrangements for taking a wife; generally selecting a cousin, the daughter of his mother's brother. On these occasions the parents collect as much rice and liquor, and as many cows and buffaloes, as their means will admit. The girls all live together, like the boys, in a separate moorung or house allotted for them; sometimes they reside in a house in which a corpse is kept, probably from the greater sanctity such an inmate would confer on their habitation. The youth is not restricted from visiting the damsel of his choice, and he adopts a well understood stratagem to ascertain her sentiments regarding himself. Whilst he is talking to her companion, he carelessly puts down his pipe, and narrowly watches her actions. If the damsel entertains any regard for him she instantly takes up his pipe and smokes it; from that moment the youth is satisfied of his conquest, and hastens to communicate the result to his parents, who arrange matters with the girl's relatives. Presents of ornaments are sent for the girl, which she immediately wears; and an offering of liquor and tumbul pan (or betel-nut leaf) to chew, being accepted by her parents, the marriage is decided on. After this, cows, buffaloes, rice, and liquor are forwarded to the house of the intended bride, and all her relations and friends are invited to a grand feast. An old deodhuncie (or priestess) accompanies the youth to the party with a basket of ginger, and the youth then addresses the chosen damsel, thus:—'This day I take you to be my wife. I will not desert you, neither will I take another; eat this ginger in pledge thereof—henceforth we are husband and wife. The woman on this eats a bit of the ginger, and then the youth sits down; whereupon the girl, in the same strain, taking up a piece of ginger, says,—'I am your wife, and you are my husband, and I will obey you as such. I will not take another husband, for we are husband and wife; in token of which you will eat this ginger.' The marriage ceremony being thus concluded, the youth, after partaking of the feast, returns home to his parents, and in the evening his wife joins him with baskets of food for her husband's parents and his brothers' wives. She thenceforth resides with her husband. From that day the husband ceases to abide at the moorung, and after the lapse of two or three days, according to the village roll, takes his tour of guard duty at the moorung. From the day of his marriage he commences the preparation of a separate house, upon the completion of which, in a few months, he quits the parental roof. Some Nagas will, however, continue to cultivate the land, and share the produce of their labour with those of their parents; but on the birth of a child the families separate.

"Amongst the Nagas, marriage is contracted with near relatives, such as cousins, in preference to other women. A widow, having no children, cannot marry a stranger, but must marry her late husband's brother; and if he happens to be a mere boy, she will still live with him as his wife; nor can the boy take another damsel: he must marry his brother's widow. The custom is one of great antiquity, and apparently cannot be infringed. If the widow has one or two children she cannot marry again, but must remain in her own house. No Naga marries more than one wife, and if she

dies he is at liberty to marry again. The crimes of adultery and seduction are treated with the utmost severity: the offenders are brought before the khonbaw and the people assembled to investigate the offence; on proof of which, the khonbaw, or his ticklah, decapitates the man in a conspicuous part of the road, between two or three villages; or he is tied with cane cords to a tree, and there crucified. In some clans it is the practice to deprive both the seducer and seduced of their lives; in others, the former is placed in a basket, his hands and feet tied together, and he is rolled many times from the summit of a hill until life be extinct.

"Funeral Ceremonies.—The Nagas consider sudden death as particularly unfortunate: even if a person dies after one or two months' sickness, the period is still deemed too short to be lucky; and his corpse is instantly removed and placed in the jungles on a platform 4 or 5 feet high, where it is left to decay. For three or four days after a death the relatives do not leave the village; neither do other villagers resort to the village in which death has occurred during the same period. If a person dies who has been afflicted with a long illness, a platform is raised within his house, and the corpse being folded in clothes is placed thereon. By night and day the corpse is watched with great care, and as soon as it begins to decompose, large quantities of spirituous liquor are thrown over it; and whatever the deceased was in the habit of eating and drinking in his lifetime (such as rice, vegetables, and liquor) is placed once a month on the ground before the body. The virtues of the deceased are frequently rehearsed; the heirs and relatives throw themselves on the earth, and make great lamentations for many months after the death has occurred. At the expiration of the period of mourning, a great feast of liquor, rice, buffaloes' and cows' flesh is prepared by the survivors; and an immense number of people, armed with their swords and spears, and dressed in the most fantastical garb, as if preparing for a war-expedition, are assembled to partake of it. They commence the festival by repeating the name of the deceased, singing many kinds of songs, dancing and cursing the deity or spirit in these words: 'If to-day we could see you, we would with these swords and spears kill you. Yes, we would eat your flesh! yes, we would drink your blood! yes, we would burn your bones in the fire! You have slain our relative. Where have you fled to? Why did you kill our friend? Shew yourself now, and we shall see what your strength is. Come quickly, to-day, and we shall see you with our eyes, and with our swords cut you in pieces, and eat you raw. Let us see how sharp your sword is, and with it we will kill you. Look at our spears, see how sharp they are: with them we will spear you. Whither now art thou fled? Than thou, spirit, who destroyest our friends in our absence, we have no greater enemy. Where are you now?—whither hast thou fled?' With these and similar speeches and songs, they clash their swords and weapons together, dance, and eat and drink throughout the night. On the following day the corpse is folded up in a cloth and placed on a new platform 4 or 5 feet high; and the whole of his weapons, swords, spears, panjees choonga (hollow bamboo joint for holding water), rice-dish,—in fact every thing used by the deceased in his lifetime, is now arranged round his bier, which is held sacred: no one would dare to touch a single thing thus consecrated. After this ceremony is concluded, the whole of the party disperse to their respective homes.

"Theft is held in great abhorrence amongst the Nagas, and is consequently so rare that they leave every thing exposed in the open fields. If any person is detected in committing the offence no mercy is shown: the khonbaw pronounces sentence of decapitation without a moment's hesitation. The Nagas are remarkable for simplicity, candour, and integrity; even the comparatively small vice of lying, to which the natives of British India are

so seriously and universally addicted, is unknown among them, and will probably continue so until they have been corrupted by their more enlightened neighbours, the Assamese, or by the advance of civilisation, refined arts, and manners. The Nagas have no names for the days of the week, and know not their own ages. Summer and winter are the only divisions of the year they recognise, distinguishing them as dry and wet seasons of six months each. Time is counted by the moon, or by the number of crops they can recollect reaping. They believe in a god or spirit called Rungkuttuck Rung, who created the earth and all things, but they have no hope of future rewards, nor any fear of punishment hereafter; neither do they believe in a future state of existence. For the above information we are indebted to Bhog Chund, who is the son of a West Countryman of the Khetree caste, by an Assamese mother, and having lived many years amongst the Nagas, is thoroughly acquainted with them. He is now a resident and industrious cultivator in the plains. He reads and writes Assamese, and is a most straightforward character. He would be an invaluable companion and guide in travelling through the Naga territory. I do not vouch for the correctness of the list of the Naga tribe inserted in a later page, but in the absence of more authentic details, it may be deemed worthy of consideration. The present account of the tribes is confined to the Nagas of Upper Assam; but it is supposed that very similar customs and habits prevail amongst those of central Assam. The Nagas bordering immediately on the plains are, for the most part, amicably disposed towards the British government; and those on the Patkoe range have shewn a desire for our protection against the marauding Singphos. The Nagas residing on the hills most remote from the valley are said to be fine, stout, athletic men, of fair complexions; and unencumbered with the smallest strip of covering in the shape of clothing for any part of the body."

"They amount, perhaps, to nearly 50,000 persons. "The Garrows of all the hill tribes bordering on the Assam valley, north or south, near Goalparah, though not lofty in stature, are endowed with the most powerful Herculean frames. The expression of their countenances is savage, and their complexion exceedingly black. In conversation they are loud, and remarkable for asperity."

"A savage custom exists amongst the Garrows of commemorating the death of their relatives by massacring our inoffensive subjects whenever they can do so with impunity; whether in open day, in ambush, or by a sudden night attack in overwhelming numbers. In this respect they resemble other tribes of which we have already treated. At their festive meetings it is said the Garrows are guilty of great excesses in imbibing spirituous liquors. A dried excavated gourd, which does duty for a bottle, and holds about one quart and a half, is filled with an intoxicating liquor distilled from rice; this, at their jovial parties, is presented to each person, whose nose being seized, the gourd is applied to the mouth till the individual is perfectly satiated, or falls prostrate in a fit of intoxication. After this, the toper is immersed in a pool of water, or the river, that the temperature of the body may be cooled. In the choice of food few things come amiss to a Garrow palate. For example, a dog fed with rice, and then roasted alive, is esteemed one of the most exquisite dainties. Every description of meat is consumed, even when perfectly putrid. Singularly enough, however, milk is considered unwholesome, and is never drunk. The Garrow women are remarkably coarse and ugly, with very dark complexions. They wear scarcely any articles of cloth covering, but, in common with most savages, they are particularly fond of showy ornaments. Their necks are adorned with a profusion of coloured glass beads; and if the lobe of the ear can only be distended to the shoulders by the weight of ear-rings, they consider that they have succeeded in rendering themselves peculiarly at-

tractive. The Garrows to this day are independent of our rule, and are therefore free from any tax on their cultivation. An immense quantity of cotton is grown on their hills."

"The *Cosseahs*, although near neighbours of the Garrows, are unlike them in personal appearance. They are an athletic race, but by no means fond of more occupation than will suffice to give them a bare subsistence. This gained, their lives are passed in fishing, bird-catching, and hunting, merely by way of pastime. Like all savages, they are untrustworthy. In the year 1829, at Nuncklow, Lieutenants Beddingfield and Burlton were, by the *Cosseah Rajah's* order, barbarously massacred."

"They grow potatoes to a large extent, and sell them advantageously."

The *Booteahs*, about 80,000 in population, on the hills of Bootan, the *Huzaree Khawa* and *Kuppah Choor Akhas*, and the *Dufflahs*, are other more remote tribes, and briefly described; but we trust the traits we have so copiously copied of their contiguous compeers will not only exonerate us from the charge of having done too little with this volume (we fear we have pirated too much), but induce readers to look into it for much farther and remarkable matter respecting the anomalous people who have become of importance to our future Indian empire, and may take a prominent part in our commercial relations."

The Treaty of Utrecht. By M. Charles Giraud, Member of the Institute of France. Translated from the French. Pp. 158. London, Ridgway. This, we presume from the name and position of the writer, may be taken as a demi-official French view of the treaty of Utrecht; in which it is endeavoured to be shewn that it was framed not to hinder a member of the royal house of Bourbon from being seated on the throne of Spain, but to prevent a union of the two crowns of Spain and France. To us it appears that the spirit of the treaty must therefore have been to guard against contingencies which might lead to such a union; but M. Giraud argues for the latter, and against this construction. The political discussion is not for the *Literary Gazette*; and therefore, having stated the main point, we leave the pamphlet, which is an able one, and of national interest, to be canvassed by those who ought to make themselves acquainted with the useful historical documents here put forth, and the Essay in which they are reasoned upon to the best of one side of the question.

Florentine History, &c. By Captain H. E. Napier. Vol. VI. Moxon.

This volume concludes the work, bringing down the history from 1737 to 1815. The reign of Leopold the First occupies nearly the whole of the volume, and unfolds the increasing prosperity of Tuscany till the evil times of the French Revolution stopped the progress of Europe, and especially interfered with the welfare of this small state. A rapid glance at the changes which ensued completes the work; and it is with gratification that the reader, at the close, finds the beautiful country restored to a course of progressive improvement, and an enlightened policy directing its efforts in every direction. In conclusion, we have to compliment Captain Napier on the able manner in which he has written this history. Without dogmatizing, he has set its instructive lessons clearly before us, and taught us to trace the advance of civilisation in Italy, and, by analogy, throughout the world. It is a very interesting production, and worthy of the good days of literature."

Ecclesiastical History, from the Earliest Period to the Present Time. Pp. 200. Cambridge, Deighton; London, Bell.

"DESIGNED for schools and students," the editor of this little work has done them good service, by compiling it from Eusebius, Bede, Mosheim, and other sources generally referred to.

The Brutiad. Book I. By Henry Leardon.

Is a gallant attempt to write an *Æneid* on the foundation of the British empire, 1000 n.c., by the Trojan-Latian Brutus (vide Geoffrey of Monmouth). To convey to readers a notion of its style, we cannot do better than quote the introductory invocation, which, we think, is more original than Virgil, though confessedly an imitation on the model of the Roman bard.

"The founding of thine empire; those events,
The dawning of its destiny supreme;
Of greatness that out-paragons the name!
I sing, my country, to thy noblest heart.
While here reclind on beauteous Primrose Hill,
I'll not invite Parnassian streams or groves
To elevate its simple symmetry.
While Thames rolls broader than Ilissus sweet,
And broader than old Tiber, and doth lave
His fertile waving fields, as fam'd as theirs,
With more gigantic arms, I will not spread
A foreign mist, O Hill! to hide thy top,
Or thy broad breast, O Thames! While Britain boasts
A Marlborough, a Nelson, Wellington!
I need no ancient heroes to exalt
My Introduction to this legend old.
No! If there ever soar'd above our turf
A kindred soul to Jove or Cynthus;
If ever muse or god have gaily taken
A voluntary ramble o'er our meads,
Then let me, unalloy'd with foreign sounds,
Connect our regal Thames and breezy Hill
With sacred Invocation!"

The poet proceeds to see the Nine through a haze, somewhere about St. Paul's "colossal dome," and sings:

"Save me, Jove! what can I see?
It is a glorious dream, or I behold
The nine inspirators descending light,
Each in her loveliness definable,
Towards the green that musingly I press!"

After this Primrose Hill is immortal; let Sir Peter Laurie say what he will about its desecration by Sunday crowds and their vulgar revels.

1. *Tales for the Young.* By Hans Christian Andersen. A new Translation.
2. *The Book of Fable and Allegory.*
3. *The Book of Poetry.* 2d edition enlarged.
4. *Stories from Herodotus.* By C. Moberly, M.A. London, Burns.

Four volumes of a "Cabinet Library," very neatly produced, and replete with variety both for entertainment and instruction. Andersen's Tales are (as every body knows) quite delightful; the selected poetry and allegories are in excellent taste; and the Stories from Herodotus quite a historical windfall for youth.

Pinnock's Scripture-History made Easy. Revised and enlarged by Ingram Cobbin, M.A. G. F. Gibbs. Is another of those performances which merit the favour of teachers and those who are to be taught.

Political Economy, and the Philosophy of Government. By M. de Sismondi. 8vo, pp. 459. London, J. Chapman.

This volume is a well-selected portion of the most valuable divisions contained in Sismondi's highly-esteemed Essays. Some additions from his *Etudes sur les Sciences Sociales*, and an appendix of (as far as we know) hitherto unpublished private letters and memoranda of the author, tend to make the publication more complete; and for those who have not leisure nor inclination to wade through the voluminous writings of the author, this sufficiently large specimen of them will be found very satisfactory. Political economy as a science, and the theory of government (as is mentioned in a prefatory notice), are almost as well illustrated here as in the whole body of his works.

A short Account of Organs built in England, from the Reign of King Charles II. to the present Time. Pp. 117. F. Masters.

This is a curious volume, giving an account of the construction of the great or principal organs known in England from the works of Father Smith to our day. Their measurements, their forms, their various component parts, their qualities, powers, and effects, are described; and the prices paid for them often stated. Some of the earlier instruments are still remaining in our cathedrals.

Happy Ignorance; or, Church and State. Pp. 211. Chapman and Hall.

AN allegorical religious adventure, in which liberality and philanthropy are enforced in a sensible manner, though little is gained by the attempt to do so in a new fashion.

Outlines of the History and Formation of the Under-stand. Pp. 123. Smith, Elder, and Co.

OUTLINES of Social Economy by the same writer has, we presume, been successful enough to encourage him to publish this new educational work, in which he has essayed to embody the doctrines of our leading philosophical authors. It places the duties of schoolmasters in a very wide sphere; much, no doubt, depends upon them.

Fortescue: a Novel. By James Sheridan Knowles. 3 vols. Moxon.

IT appears to us that Mr. Knowles, in seeking materials for his numerous successful dramas, must have gathered much that, though not essentially dramatic, was sufficiently consecutive and interesting to deserve publication in another form; and to these resources, we presume, we are indebted for the well-sustained tales of *Fortescue* and *George Lovell*. The latter has been already reviewed with the commendation it fully deserved (*Lit. Gaz.* No. 1671); and we have now only to say, that *Fortescue* is a worthy rival and companion of *George Lovell*, and that the female characters are very beautifully drawn.

The British World in the East: a Guide, Historical, Moral, and Commercial, to India, China, Australia, South Africa, and other Possessions of Great Britain, &c. By Leitch Ritchie. 2 vols. 8vo. W. H. Allen.

CAREFULLY collected, skillfully put together, and ably edited in every respect, so far as so vast a subject could be got within a fair readable compass, this publication is one of the greatest utility, reminding us in some measure of the admirable Encyclopedic productions of a McCulloch. There is candour and moderation in all Mr. Ritchie's views, and his narrative is at once succinct and comprehensive. For reference on all the important matters which concern our wonderful colonisation, we could not desire a better guide; and we recommend it most heartily to the success which indeed must attend it, without our well-merited panegyric. Extracts from such a production are out of the question.

The Pilgrimage: How God was found of him that sought Him not. From the German of Wildenhahn. By Mrs. Stanley Carr.

INCULCATING fervent Christian piety, against rationalism.

A Dictionary of the Gospels, &c. By the Rev. Sam. Dunn. Tegg and Co.

A NICE little book, a second edition, and a very useful companion to Bible-reading.

Astronomical Aphorisms. By P. Murphy, Esq. Pp. 168. Whittakers.

FAMOUS in almanac lore and weather prophesies, Mr. Murphy has here adventured the higher field of meteoric action, which he endeavours to establish on an "immutable basis." Electricity and magnetism perplex us in this theory.

Two Essays on Dreams, &c. By John Sheppard. Pp. 179. Jackson and Walford.

CONTAIN a quantity of citations from preceding writers on this oft and copiously handled subject, which is yet always attractive, as human nature will never cease to be superstitious. The author holds that dreams are providential and useful.

Martin the Foundling; or, Memoirs of a Falet de Chambre. From the French of Eugene Sue. London, G. Vickers.

A PRODUCTION very offensive to morality and moral feeling, in which scenes of the most sensual and passionate descriptions are wrought up with all the intensity of which the author is master.

Shadows of the Clouds. By Zeta. Pp. 287. Ollivier. Two tales, with an appropriate title.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

THE NEW ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

DR. KING, the medical officer of the expedition in search of Sir John Ross in 1833-4-5, has addressed a letter to Earl Grey, the principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, volunteering his services in search of Sir John Franklin, who sailed in 1845, to prosecute the north-west passage, and has not been heard of since. Sir John Richardson has proposed a plan, which has been accepted by the Admiralty. Nevertheless, Dr. King has thought it right to seek of Earl Grey an appointment under the Board of which his lordship is the head, in search of Sir John Franklin, as it was under that Board the Doctor acted in search of Sir John Ross. Dr. King maintains that, to save Sir John Franklin's party, comprising 126 men, it would be futile to attempt to carry provisions to him overland; and he adduces in support of his opinion, that the expedition upon which he was engaged for the rescue of Sir John Ross failed in such an attempt, although in that case it was only contemplated to relieve 23 men, and from this evident cause, that the country is too poor to supply a large party, except they hunt their way, a delay which would be fatal to Sir John Franklin.

The plan he proposes is for the Government to send out one or more vessels laden with provisions next spring, to the western land of North Somerset, where he maintains, for several reasons, Sir John Franklin's party will be found; having previously requested the Hudson's Bay Company to store up provisions in their trading houses on the Great Slave Lake and the Mackenzie River. He then proposes to lend a small party, known in the fur-country by the name of a "light canoe party," to Sir John Franklin, to convey to him the information of these movements, and to supply him with Indian guides in case it should appear more desirable to make the southern route to the provision stores on the Mackenzie River and the Slave Lake, instead of the Northern one, in search of the provision vessels. He maintains that he possesses all the requisites for such a journey—youth and health, and great physical strength, and an intimate acquaintance with the country and the Indians. He has placed a heavy responsibility upon Earl Grey; for he does not hesitate to state that it is the only plan which can afford that relief to Sir John Franklin which he has a right to expect from the Government. Sir John Franklin's expedition, he asserts, should not have sailed in the face of the facts he laid before the Government, when the subject of the expedition was in contemplation; for, to use his own words, "it was altogether impracticable, as Sir John Franklin would have to take the ice (as sailing through an ice-blocked sea is termed) in utter ignorance of the extent of his labours, and, in case of difficulty, with certainly no better prospect before him than that which befel Sir John Ross, whose escape from a perilous position of four years is admitted by all to have been almost miraculous." He regrets that Lord Stanley did not accept his offer to act in concert with Sir John Franklin, by conducting a land-party in two divisions from the Athabasca Lake, the one down the Mackenzie, and the other down the Great Fish River, as there would not be the anxiety for Sir John Franklin that is now felt, nor the necessity that is now paramount for the most active exertions for his relief.—*Nautical Standard*.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

June 4th.—Mr. Brodie "On the Polar Nature of Chemical Force." Mr. Brodie's object was to shew, that where chemical affinity exerted itself, the elements or constituents acting assumed a dual or polar condition; and that where this assumption of polar condition was prevented, chemical change would not take place. Thus hydrogen and nitrogen, taken alone, will not directly combine; but where the nitrogen, already in a state of combination, as in binoxide of nitrogen, is mixed with hy-

drogen and heat applied, a portion of the nitrogen will combine with the hydrogen; another portion forming a new combination with oxygen. Several similar instances were given; and the deduction sought to be established was, that even elements, at the moment of combination, assume a dual character, and (so to speak) divide themselves. The phenomena of substitution discovered by Gay-Lussac, and developed by Dumas (several experiments on which were shown), were cited as auxiliary to this view, which Mr. Brodie thought would assist in explaining the mysteries of chemistry.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

April 14th.—"On the structure and probable age of the coal-field of the James River, near Richmond, Virginia," by Mr. C. J. F. Lyell. This coal-field, which is about twenty miles long from north to south, and from four to twelve miles in breadth from east to west, is situated twelve miles west of Richmond, in Virginia, in the midst of a granitic region. The rocks, consisting of quartzose grits, sandstones, and shales, precisely agree in character with the ordinary coal-measures of Europe. Several rich seams of bituminous coal (the principal one being occasionally from 30 to 40 feet thick) occur in the lower division of the strata, which are arranged in a trough, and are much disturbed and dislocated on the margin of the basin, where they have a steep dip, while they are horizontal towards the centre. The fossil-plants, which have been determined by Mr. Charles Bunbury, differ specifically, and most of them generically, from those found fossil in the older or paleozoic coal-formation of Europe and North America; and resemble, as Prof. W. B. Rogers first truly remarked in 1840, the plants of the oolite of Whitchy in Yorkshire; some few, however, being allied to fossils of the European trias. From the inferior position of the calamites and equisets, Mr. Lyell infers that the vegetables which produced the coal grew on the spots where the coal is now found; and that the strata were formed during the continued subsidence and repeated submergence of this part of Virginia. The shells consist of countless individuals of a species of *posidonomya* much resembling *P. minuta* of the English trias. The fossil-fish are homocerocal; and differ from those previously found in the new red sandstone (trias?) of the United States. Two of them belong to a new genus, and one to tetragonolepis; and they are considered by Prof. Agassiz and Sir P. Egerton to indicate the liassic period. The analysis of the coal made by Dr. Percy and Mr. Henry shews that it contains the same elements, carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, and nitrogen, in the same proportions as the older bituminous coal of Europe and North America. Alternating layers of crystalline coal, and others like charcoal, are observed in many places; and in the charcoal, Dr. Hooker has detected vegetable structure, not of ferns or zamites, or any conifer, but perhaps of calamites. The coal yields abundance of gas, used for lighting the streets of New York and Philadelphia; and some fatal explosions have taken place in the mines, some of which are 900 feet deep. Volcanic rocks, dikes, and beds of intrusive greenstone, intersect the coal-measures in several places, hardening the shales and altering the associated coal, the latter being in some places turned into a coke used largely for furnaces. The author concludes by expressing his opinion, that the evidence of the fossils, although some of them belong to forms usually found in the trias, preponderates upon the whole in favour of regarding the coal-field of the James River as being of the age of the inferior oolite and lias.

"Descriptions of fossil-plants from the coal-field near Richmond, Virginia," by Mr. C. J. F. Bunbury. The author describes fifteen different forms of vegetable remains, of which, however, only ten are sufficiently well preserved to be determined with any thing like precision. Six of them are ferns, of which there are new species; and one of these seems not to be referable to any of the esta-

blished genera. One of the ferns appears to be identical with a species characteristic of the oolites of the Yorkshire coast. There is one species of equisetum, undistinguishable from one of the most common fossil-plants of Whitby; one, or perhaps two, species of calamites; two (which are possibly not distinct) of zamites. The remainder are obscure impressions, of an equivocal nature. From a comparison of these vegetable remains with those found in European strata, of which the geological position is well known, the author thinks it may be concluded with tolerable certainty, that the Richmond coal-field is of later date than the great carboniferous system; and that it must be referred either to the jurassic or the triassic series,—more probably to the former.

April 28th.—Sir H. De la Beche in the chair. "On the geology of some parts of Scinde," by Capt. N. Vicary; with an introduction, by Sir R. I. Murchison. The district described by Capt. Vicary extends from Cape Monze, in lat. $24^{\circ} 50'$, and Kurorachee, on the westernmost mouth of the Indus, as far north as near Larkhana, in lat. $27^{\circ} 30'$, a distance of 200 miles. In this district he examined great part of the eastern declivity of the Hala range of mountains and the low country at their base, though his operations were often impeded by the want of water and the generally barren character of the country. The mountains consist essentially of a nummulitic limestone, resting on black slates, whose geological age is unknown. Above the nummulite rock is a pale arenaceous rock, with nummulites, hyponyx, and other fossils, one of which was well known to the army in Cabul under the name of "petrified rice." Still higher is another calcareous rock with no nummulites; on which rest beds containing many fossil bones similar to those found by Dr. Falconer and Major Cautley in the sub-Himalaya range. Near Kurorachee, at the mouth of the Indus, are clays and sandstones, containing shells of species now living in the neighbouring sea. These beds are sometimes covered by a conglomerate containing pebbles of the nummulite limestone of the Hala mountains. In many places along the foot of these mountains hot-springs burst forth; concerning which Capt. Vicary communicated interesting particulars. The waters of those at Lukkee, near Sehwan, are saline, and deposit sulphur; and near them a jet of inflammable gas once burst from a hole in the rock. It was named "the Peri's Lamp" by the Scindees, who affirm that it became extinguished on account of some impure idolater having bathed in the well. Another hot-spring, which forms the waterfall of Peeth, deposits travertine; large masses of which are found covering the neighbouring hills, even where the springs have now ceased to flow.

May 12th.—Sir H. T. De la Beche in the chair. "On the nomenclature of the fossil chimaeroid fishes," by Sir P. G. Egerton. The author divides this family of extinct fishes into four genera; and pointed out the characters by which they are distinguished, and the geological formations in which they occur.

"On Kent's Cavern, Torquay," by Mr. E. Vivian. This paper gave an account of some recent researches made in it by the Torquay Natural History Society. In one place the committee found a layer of dark mould, containing burnt wood or charcoal, with recent shells and bones, resting on the floor of stalagmite; and below this, a solid bed of red marl, full of broken bones and teeth of extinct animals. In another place, below a floor of stalagmite which was carefully swept and seemed never to have been disturbed, they found the same red loam, with many bones much decayed, and a flint knife. In a third place, where the stalagmite was about a foot thick, the same loam contained a bed of fossil teeth, principally of the hyæna, many fossil bones, and among them another very perfect flint knife. The author thinks that the cave was first inhabited by bears, hyænas, and other carnivorous animals, by whom many of the bones were

carried into the cave; that these, by means of a flood, were mixed with the red loam; and that men subsequently inhabited the cave, leaving the flint knives now found. Then came a third period, in which the stalagmite was deposited; and, last of all, that period in which the British remains found above the stalagmite were deposited in the cave.

May 26th.—Sir H. T. De la Beche in the chair. "Notice of the discovery of coal on one of the islands near the coast of the Malay Peninsula," by Mr. J. R. Logan, communicated by Prof. Ansted. The coal has been found by a Penang Siamese on the southern coast of the island Junk-Ceylon (well known for its tin), near the bank of a river two or three hundred feet from its mouth. It is of a black or brownish-black colour, burns with a clear flame, and appears very bituminous. The man stated that there was a layer of it three feet thick, close under the surface; and offered to import it into Penang at 12s. 6d. per ton.

"On the structure and probable age of the Bagshot sands," by Mr. J. Prestwich, Jun.—The author described the general features of this formation in the vicinity of London, where it forms wild, thinly inhabited districts, with barren flats and ranges of heath-covered hills. It exhibits few good sections, and fossils are very rare. These sands extend more widely than has been generally supposed,—from Esher and Claremont on the east to Strathfieldsaye on the west, and from near Farnham on the south to Wokingham on the north; and they also appear on the summit of the Hampstead and Highgate hills. The age of this formation has long been a problem in geology; but the author thinks he has collected sufficient testimony to decide the question. He divides the Bagshot sands into three divisions—each with its peculiar group of organic remains. The lowest consists of fine, light yellow sands, occasionally argillaceous, with mere traces of animal remains, and a few impressions of plants. It varies from 100 to 150 feet in thickness, and rests conformably on the London clay. Above the sands are from 40 to 60 feet of brown liver-coloured or whitish clays and greensands, with frequent vegetable impressions in the clays, and occasional beds of lignite. Incumbent on this is the upper main mass of the Bagshot sands, with fewer argillaceous layers, and composed chiefly of irregular beds of light yellow sand. It contains small ironstone concretions, and blocks of saccharine sandstone 10 or 12 feet across and 3 to 4 feet thick, which are sought for by dipping through the gravel with iron rods. The thickness of this division is 250 to 300 feet. In the lower division the author finds no fossils; but from the second he has procured several; and of ten determinable and described species of shells all occur also at Bracklesham, only one or at most two in the London clay, and two or three in the Barton clays. The fossil fishes from this division—as the Edaphodon of Sir Philip Egerton, the teeth of sharks and other remains—also agree with those from Bracklesham. The upper division yields a few fossils, all eocene forms, but less decisive as to the particular division. From the whole evidence, Mr. Prestwich considers the Bagshot sands as the equivalents of the rich fossiliferous beds of Bracklesham, of the central vertical strata at White Cliff Bay, and of the central variegated and light-coloured sands of Alum Bay—and at all events older than the freshwater series. Hence also they are correlated to the lower part of the Calcaire Grossier and the Glauconie Grossière of the French tertiaries; and occupying a low place in the eocene series form an uninterrupted sequence to the London clay, and in perfect conformity with the progressive development of the marine strata of the Hampshire tertiaries.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

April 19th.—Prof. Brande, president, in the chair. The following papers were read: 1. "On the decomposition of valerianic acid by the voltaic current," by Dr. H. Kolbe. The author finds that when valerianic acid of potash is subjected to the

action of the voltaic current, it is resolved into hydrogen, carbonic acid, a new gaseous hydrocarbon, and an oily body having an æthereal odour, together with carbonate and bicarbonate of potash. The æthereal oil consists of two compounds, one of which is free from oxygen, and is composed of C^8H^8 ; the other Dr. Kolbe considers as a compound of valerianic acid with the oxide of this hydrocarbon. The gaseous hydrocarbon C^8H^8 has a peculiar æthereal smell, a specific gravity double that of olefiant gas, and unites with chlorine, even in the dark, to form a heavy oily liquid similar to chlorelayle. Butyric and acetic acids are acted on in a similar way; the products from acetic acid are all gaseous; butyric acid yields in addition a volatile oil, C^6H^7 . Dr. Kolbe considers that valerianic acid may be viewed as a conjugate compound of the radical C^8H^8 with oxalic acid.

2. "An account of experiments with voltaic couples immersed in pure water and in oxygenated water," by Mr. R. Adie. After alluding to some previous published experiments on this subject, the author states that, on examining after a lapse of two years an arrangement of voltaic couples placed in a tube and hermetically sealed, the tubes burst with violence, evidencing a true decomposition of water, although the metals were bright and the water transparent. The nature of the battery which had been sealed in the tube is then minutely described, and the precautions used to exclude atmospheric air. On examining the inner surface of the glass and the plates, they were found to be covered with minute crystals of protoxide of zinc. The effect of a zinc and copper couple in pure water on the galvanometer was then examined; and it was found that previous to boiling the needle stood at 50° ; at the moment boiling was about to commence it indicated 70° ; and after long boiling 20° ; the greatest indication occurring at the time the water was parting with the dissolved air, proving that, in addition to the action of the water-battery being supported by the absorption of atmospheric air, there is a minute degree of action when it is excited by pure water. When two slips of the same metal are placed in a stream of water, the one being in a part of the fluid in rapid motion, the other in a quiescent part, and connecting these with a galvanometer, a permanent deflection of 25° was observed; and by changing their respective positions, without disturbing their attachments, the needles passed to the opposite side, the air contained in the water of the current converting it into a negative electrode. With both plates in still water, and a tube of oxygen over one of them, the effect was the same. Metallic precipitations were also effected by this arrangement. Iron plates produced the same effects; and the author considers that these experiments establish the existence of an electrolyte more easily decomposed than water, and as universal in nature. A saturated solution of carbonate of potash or soda, in an open cylindrical vessel, so completely shuts out the atmospheric air, that pieces of iron have remained immersed two years and four months without any appearance of corrosion.

3. "On the chemical constitution of metacetic acid, and some other bodies related to it," by E. Frankland, and Dr. H. Kolbe. The idea recently started, that certain organic acids might be looked upon as conjugate compounds containing an acid of simpler constitution, united to a second body without diminution of its capacity of saturation, led the authors to undertake certain experiments in the above direction. The possible conversion of cyanide of ethyle into metacetic acid and ammonia first engaged their attention. Pure cyanide of ethyle was prepared by the process of Pelouze, by distilling together sulphovinate of potash and cyanide of potassium, washing the product with water, and finally distilling it from chloride of calcium in a tube-retort void of air. Its purity was proved by analysis. The cyanide of ethyle was then added drop by drop to a tolerably concentrated boiling solution of caustic potash, and the dis-

titled product returned to the retort as long as it retained any smell. During this operation much ammonia was given off. The alkaline residue distilled with sulphuric acid produced an acid liquid having all the characters of metacetic acid. The salts of silver, lead, and baryta were formed and examined by analysis, and all doubt of the nature of the acid set at rest. Cyanide of ethyle is also decomposed by dilute sulphuric acid, with formation of the same product.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

THE anniversary meeting of this Society was held on Monday, the 24th ult., for the purposes of receiving the report of the Council, electing officers for the ensuing year, hearing the president's address, and presenting the gold medals, the donation of her Majesty. Soon after one o'clock, the required number of members being present, the president, Lord Colchester, took the chair. The report informed us that the Society at present consists of 672 members, besides 39 foreign and 22 corresponding members. The accessions to the library during the past year consist of 344 books and pamphlets, besides a very considerable number of maps, charts, atlases, &c. The Council have awarded the gold medals: the Founder's, to Capt. Charles Sturt, for his discovery of the rivers Murray and Darling, and for his more recent journey, undertaken with the view of traversing the whole extent of the continent of Australia, from Adelaide to the Gulf of Carpentaria; the Patron's, to Dr. Ludwig Leichardt, for his journey from Moreton Bay to Port Essington, a distance of 1800 miles through a country hitherto unknown, prosecuted with almost unexampled perseverance, and crowned with the most complete success; opening to the settler in Australia new and extensive fields of enterprise, and connecting the remote settlements of New South Wales with a secure port on the confines of the Indian Archipelago. Capt. Sturt being in South Australia, and Dr. Leichardt having set out on another journey of exploration across that continent from E. to W., were represented, the former by Mr. Morpeth, a member of the Legislative Council of South Australia; the latter by Dr. Nicholson of Bristol, the early friend of Dr. Leichardt. The noble president having briefly recapitulated the services performed to geographical knowledge by the labours of Capt. Sturt and Dr. Leichardt, proceeded to deliver the very beautiful gold medals to Mr. Morpeth and Dr. Nicholson, who returned thanks for the honour conferred by the Society. Lord Colchester, in retiring from the president's chair, which during the past two years he has occupied with the utmost zeal and earnestness, and with the greatest advantage to the Society and benefit to the cause of geographical advancement, announced that the election of president for the ensuing two years had fallen unanimously on W. J. Hamilton, Esq., M.P., and concluded a very able address in the following words: "And now that past differences of opinion have subsided, let us hope that our prospects will continue to brighten, and that under the guidance of the able and distinguished geographer whom you have this day elected to fill the chair of the president, the Geographical Society will increase the number of its members, and extend the sphere of its public utility." In the evening a number of the members dined together at the Thatched House Tavern, the chair being taken by the noble retiring president, supported on the right by the president elect, and on the left by Admiral Sir Charles Malcolm.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

June 8th.—Dr. Gamble in the chair. Mr. Gray continued his paper on British whales, pointing out the characters of the two genera into which he proposes to divide the pike whales. He retains *Balaenoptera* for *B. rostrata* of Hunter, and *Physalus* for the larger species. He shewed the osteological distinctions which exist between the three

known species; and described a new one under the name of *Ph. Sibbaldi*, from a skeleton, in the Hull museum, of a specimen taken in the Humber. Dr. Melville exhibited the skull of the specimen figured by Mr. Sowerby in the British Miscellany, under the name of *Physalus bidens*, which had been presented to the museum of the Anatomical School at Oxford by Dr. Buckland. It belongs to the genus *Ziphius* of Cuvier, established on some fossils found in France. A discussion followed, in which Mr. Thompson, Mr. Gray, Mr. Gould, and Dr. Melville took part. It was observed, that this animal had only once occurred to naturalists, and that an allied form (*Delphinorhynchus micropterus*) had twice occurred on the coast of France. As both the latter were females, and Mr. Sowerby's specimen a male, it was suggested that they might probably be sexes of the same species, the comparative size of the teeth being merely a sexual character.—Mr. Gould described a new species of *Apteryx*, which he named *A. Owenii*—a just tribute of respect to Prof. Owen, whose labours have so thoroughly elucidated the physiology of this form and its allies. The skin, which was exhibited to the meeting, was obtained by way of Sydney, and unfortunately without any information as to the circumstances of its capture. Mr. Gould conjectures, with reason, that its habitat will be found in the middle island of New Zealand. It is clearly distinct from *A. Australis*, which it resembles in size, and still more from the larger one still uncaptured, of whose existence an indication was given at the meeting of April 13th in Mr. Strange's letter. The wing in *A. Owenii* is still more rudimental than in the old species. The plumage is barred instead of streaked, and more hair-like in texture. The discovery of this bird is certainly the most important accession to ornithological science which has occurred for a long period; and the detailed account of its habits and economy, which Mr. Gould is in early expectation of receiving, cannot fail to be looked for with the greatest interest.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

June 8th.—Sir John Rennie, president, in the chair. Mr. J. M. Heppel, "On the expansive action of steam." The object of the paper was to deduce a more exact formula than those now in use for the dynamical effect developed by steam in expanding from one pressure to another. Mr. Heppel combines Pambour's formula with one by Mr. Scott Russell, expressing the relation between the pressure and temperature; and by this means eliminates the latter, and obtains a formula containing only the pressure and density. From this formula another is easily obtained shewing the total dynamical action developed during expansion from one pressure to another; and the results were given in a tabular form, exhibiting: 1. The pressure in lbs. per square inch. 2. The relative volume, or ratio of the volume of steam to that of the water which produced it. 3. The dynamical effect before expansion, or the number of lbs. raised 1 inch by the evaporation of each cubic inch of water. 4. The dynamical effect during expansion, or the number of lbs. raised 1 inch by the steam produced from 1 cubic inch of water in expanding from a pressure of 100 lbs. per square inch to the particular corresponding pressure. The dynamical effect in expanding from any one pressure to any other must be clearly expressed by the difference of the corresponding numbers in this column. Part of the remainder of the paper was devoted to shewing that whilst the performance of engines could not possibly be expected to exceed the results ascertained as above, it should not fall far short of them in the case of engines of good construction. In the course of the paper the fallacy of the theory of what had been termed the "percussive action" of steam was ably exposed; and although from the paper being full of mathematical formulæ it was not well adapted for being read at a public meeting, it evidently possessed great merit as an inves-

tigation of an important subject. It was followed by a short paper, also "On the expansive action of steam," by Mr. Tate,—the object of which was to demonstrate and apply a formula some time since discovered by the author, expressing the law of the expansion of steam; and at the same time to establish certain general equations relative to the work of steam applicable to all formulæ professing to give the law of volume and pressure. It also examined and corrected Pole's formula, which, although a decided improvement upon Pambour's, was stated to be not sufficiently accurate for pressures above 70 lbs., or below 16 lbs. The paper announced to be read at the next meeting was "On the law which governs the discharge of elastic fluids under pressure through short tubes and orifices," by Mr. W. Frondé.

THE AMERICAN HUMAN FOSSILS.

TOUCHING the questionable account of the discovery in the vicinity of Natchez, in North America, of some human fossils associated, under exactly the same circumstances, with the remains of extinct mammalia, Dr. Dickeson, of Natchez, who is in possession of these fossils, has written as follows to Mr. T. D. Allen, of North Cerney, Cirencester: "I shall commence with the fossil innominate. That this ancient relic of our species is strictly in the fossil state is manifest from its physical characters, in which it accords, in every respect of colour, density, &c. with those of the megalonix and other associated bones. That it could not have been drifted into the position in which it was found, is manifest from several facts: 1. That the plateau of blue clay is not appreciably acted on by those causes that produce ravines in the superincumbent diluvial. 2. That the human bone was found at least two feet below three associated skeletons of the megalonix, all which, judging from the apposition of proximity of these several parts, had been quietly deposited in this locality, independently of any active current or other displacing power; and, lastly, because there was no admixture of diluvial drift with the blue clay, which latter retains its homogeneous character equally in the higher part, that furnishes the extinct quadrupeds, and its lower part, that contains the remains of man. There are fragments of the human skeleton found on the shores and islands, as well as those of extinct animals—no doubt washed out of the bluffs—and in the same fossil state. I have many such specimens in my cabinet; but with these I have not ventured at any comparative age. But the innominate found in an undisturbed locality, 70 feet from the surface, and three miles from the river banks, has established, beyond a doubt (and endorsed by the Academy of Science, Agassiz, and others), the great antiquity of this bone."

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, June 3d.—The following degrees were conferred: *Bachelor in Divinity*.—The Rev. H. Wellesley, principal of New Inn Hall, grand compounder.

Bachelor in Civil Law (by Commutation).—F. H. Talman, Magdalen Hall.

Masters of Arts.—T. H. Cooke, scholar of Worcester College; Rev. R. M. Rodwell, Exeter College; Rev. C. C. Spencer, Queen's College; Rev. D. Wright, Magdalen Hall; Rev. F. Godfray, Wadham College; Rev. G. H. Egerton, Rev. J. Ducker, Brasenose College; R. G. Rosier, Christ Church Coll.; Rev. A. W. Bredon, Trinity College; Rev. W. Eaton, Merton College; Rev. J. Coker, fellow of New College.

Bachelors of Arts.—J. Davies, Exeter College, Rev. W. Hutchings, St. John's College, grand compounders; T. Collins, Wadham Coll.; J. W. Kewley, Brasenose Coll.; E. J. Howard, Lincoln College; E. Tyley, Trinity College; J. M. Rice, demy of Magdalen Coll.; M. S. Wood, New College.

CAMBRIDGE.—Sir W. Browne's medals have been adjudged as follows:—For the Greek ode, B. F. Westcott, Trinity College; subject, "Pericles moriens." For the Latin ode, D. J. Vaughan, Trinity Coll.; subject, "Collegium S.S. Trinitatis apud Cantabrigiam jam trecentosimum annum agens." For the epigrams, D. J. Vaughan, Trinity College; subjects, Greek, *ἱεροπρεπὲς καὶ καλὸν ἔργον*; Latin, "Sui iena natura."

Magdalen College.—Some discoveries of an interesting description have lately been made at the east end of the

chapel, consisting of a series of niches in the walls, long defaced, and hidden from view by the wood-work, which was set up some fourscore years since. The recesses of these exquisitely-wrought niches were found to have been blocked up with the fragments of the buttresses, corbels, and criculated tabernacle-work, which had been rudely hacked away to provide an even surface for the wainscot lining. The walls are built partly of stone and partly of brick, and may be regarded as the productions of different periods, it being certain that portions of the structure are of considerably more ancient date than the foundation of the College. It is quite time that this chapel was redeemed from desecration, and restored to its full proportions, and in the spirit of the original design.—*Cambr. Chron.*

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

June 10th.—Mr. Hallam, vice-president, in the chair. The Secretary concluded the interesting paper by Mr. Hallam, noticed briefly in our last. The giving so valuable a communication in two separate readings, has increased the difficulty of attempting to do it justice on the present occasion in a report; but we hope next week to be able to present our readers with an abstract of the entire paper.

Mr. Wright's remarks on the literary history of Geoffrey of Monmouth's History of the Bretons was then read. It began by pointing out that the period from the departure of the Romans from this island to the establishment of the supremacy of the Saxons, presented a blank in history, or at least, we can only trace a dim outline of internal war and contention. A suspicious writer, named Gildas, gave some apparently unauthentic historical details which were copied by Bede, and formed nearly all known to English historians, until the first half of the twelfth century. The historians of that period, William of Malmesbury, and Henry of Huntingdon, give some new particulars, and mention the name of King Arthur, whose exploits, they say, were at that time the subject of popular romance among the Bretons of Armorica. This new information, Mr. Wright shewed, was taken from a forged book, published under the name of Nennius; and he entered into some details relating to the materials of which that book was constructed. A little later appeared the History of the Bretons, by Geoffrey of Monmouth, who pretended that he had translated it from an old manuscript in the Breton tongue. The appearance of this book, the long list of British kings never heard of before, and the romantic deeds of its principal hero, King Arthur, were received with the utmost astonishment. Its marvellous character made it popular, it was published in the shape of abridgements, and was translated several times into Anglo-Norman verse. Other writers, less credulous, protested against it as a tissue of falsehoods, and accused Geoffrey as being the inventor. Mr. Wright then gave an abstract of the contents of this singular book, and analysed them with reference to the materials of which they were evidently composed. He shewed from internal as well as external evidence, that the author must have practised a deceit upon the public; that he had artfully worked together scraps of information picked up from old writers, sometimes introducing their own words; and that he had mixed these with popular stories, of which the meaning was perverted, and with the inventions of his own brain. If any portion of this pretended history were taken from a Breton book, it can only be some part of the romance of King Arthur, and even that was evidently modified in order to make it piece on with the rest of the history. Mr. Wright then pointed out how, after the publication of this book, the local legends relating to King Arthur became more numerous and more widely spread; until, as the popularity of the subject increased, the Breton romances began to be committed to writing in the Anglo-Norman language. These, he said, related only to the cycle of King Arthur, and differed much from the outline given by Geoffrey of Monmouth.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

June 9th. Meeting of Council.—The president in the chair. Among the most interesting communi-

cations laid before the Council were two, by Mr. Roach Smith, relating to a recent discovery of Anglo-Saxon remains in the neighbourhood of Gravesend; and to an investigation, lately made by himself and Mr. W. Shaw, of the reputed site of the Roman station Othona, on the eastern coast of Essex, near Bradwell-juxta-mare. The remains at this secluded spot appeared from Mr. Smith's statement to have been overlooked by antiquaries, although they present some very remarkable features. The details of the report were ordered to be laid before the next public meeting. The Hon. R. C. Neville exhibited some fine specimens of the poll-axe, the black bill, processional sword, &c., temp. Hen. VIII., procured from a sale of property at Debdin Hall, Essex, the seat of Sir F. Vincent. The most interesting of these was an elaborately worked mace, decorated with crowned roses and with *fleur-de-lis*. It was conjectured that it might have belonged to some person of distinction who figured at the celebrated meeting of Henry and Francis I. on the field of the Cloth of Gold. Mr. Neville also exhibited a collection of bronze objects of early date, formerly in the possession of the late Mr. Deville, of the Strand, and asserted to have been found in Dorset; but, Mr. Neville stated, he unfortunately could obtain no information to be relied upon respecting the history of their discovery. Communications were also received from Messrs. Ross, Jesse, and W. H. Rogers.

ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION AT WARWICK.

We understand that active preparations are making for the annual meeting, and that, according to all appearances, it will be attended with the greatest success. A larger attendance of members is expected than on any former occasion. Warwick and its neighbourhood present many objects of interest to the visitors. Coventry, Kenilworth, Combe Abbey, and Stratford-upon-Avon, will be among the places for excursions. W. F. Lucy, Esq., of Charlecote, near the last-mentioned place, has consented to receive the visitors to inspect his interesting collection. The Castle of Warwick will be open to the Association; and the various objects of antiquarian interest it contains will be the subjects of several papers. The usual activity in the literary department is manifesting itself; and among the contributions already announced are: in the Historical Section, papers on the romance of Guy of Warwick, by Mr. Wright; on the history of the Earls of Warwick, as illustrated from Rouse's Roll, also by Mr. Wright; on the library of Captain Cox, the Coventry antiquary, by Mr. Halliwell; on John Rouse, of Warwick, and his Chronicle, by the Rev. B. Post; on the municipal archives of Northampton, by Mr. J. Thompson; and on the Staplegate in Canterbury, by Mr. C. Sandys. In the Primeval Section, we are promised an interesting account of the discovery of a Saxon cemetery at Cotgrave, Notts, by Mr. T. Bateman; some observations on early Irish antiquities, by Mr. Crofton Croker; and an account, by Mr. Roach Smith, of the discoveries made at different times at and near the Roman Durobrivæ (Castor, in Northamptonshire), by Mr. E. T. Artis. In the Medieval Section, we shall have observations on the tapestries in St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, by Mr. Fairholt; remarks illustrative of the Limoges enamels in the collection in Warwick Castle, by Mr. W. H. Rogers; and papers on the enamelled goldsmith's work of the middle ages, by Mr. G. Isaacs; on ancient and modern heraldic differences, by Mr. C. Sandys; and on the Coventry mysteries, by Mr. Halliwell. The most important paper in the Architectural Section is that by Mr. J. Gwilt on the ratio of points of support in some of the principal buildings in France, Germany, and England, of the 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th centuries, which was expected for the Gloucester meeting.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN SOCIETY.

June 8th.—Dr. J. Lee in the chair. 1. Mr. Bonomi

read a communication on the papyrus (*papyrus antiquorum*), enumerating its various uses in the manufacture of sandals (specimens of which were exhibited), ropes, baskets, &c. and more especially boats, as mentioned in Isaiah, and testified by a painted sculpture, a copy of which was exhibited, from a tomb near the second pyramid, as well as by Pliny, and other authorities.

Mr. Bonomi next proceeded to the consideration of the papyrus as represented in the temples, more especially in the columns. Thus, in the more ancient temples it supports the highest part of the roof, and forms the centre avenue in the great hall of columns in the temples of Karnac and of Luxor, as the full-blown papyrus. The form of column used to support the inferior roof of the great halls, and the usual form for the courts in the more ancient temples, is that of the bud, or of several buds tied together. The columns of the temple in the island of Philoe represent bundles of the plant in various stages of growth. In the Ptolemaic temples are also a great variety of capitals, representing combinations of various stages of growth. All these forms were illustrated by coloured drawings.

Mr. B. next, after describing the plant at length, assisted by drawings of the actual plant, and also of the Egyptian pictures of it, proceeded to detail his idea of the process of the manufacture of paper from the plant, as deduced from the examination of eighteen papyri of various ages. This portion of the paper was also most satisfactorily illustrated.

Mr. Bonomi concluded by remarking, that the proposal which has been lately made to make paper of mummy clothes, is founded upon an erroneous estimate of the quantity to be obtained; in addition to which, the expenses attendant upon digging up the mummies would far exceed any profits to be derived from the paper.

Dr. J. Lee exhibited several beautiful specimens of papyri of different ages, from his museum at Hartwell; and described the plant as he had seen it growing on the Cyane, a small tributary of the Anapus, flowing s.w. of Syracuse in Sicily, and the successful attempts he had made to make paper from the pellicle found between the flesh and bark of the thick part of the stalk, and which adhered by its own mucilage.

Mr. J. J. Scoles also communicated a brief account of this plant, as he had seen it growing at the same spot (for it is not found at the present day in the river Nile, although said to grow in the adjacent marshes); and remarked that it flourished best near the fountain-head. Mr. Scoles also described his success in manufacturing paper from the recent plant.

2. Dr. Plate read a communication upon the kat or kaad plant, which grows in Yemen (*Catha edulis* Forskal). This plant, although little known, is much used in the Arabian peninsula, where it is chewed, having an animating exciting effect, which when persevered in becomes a slight intoxication. The Arabs of Yemen sit chewing and talking whole nights together. The finer sorts are, however, expensive. The use of the kat is said not to leave any disagreeable consequences.

The use of kat is older than that of coffee, and that cultivated on Mount Sabber is the best, and a source of great wealth to the inhabitants, as the trade in this herb is very considerable. The trees are not stripped till four years old, and their first produce is of an inferior quality. It furnishes the best produce in the sixth year. The wild kat tree also furnishes a coarse and very intoxicating produce.

Dr. Beke exhibited specimens of the plant from Abyssinia (the Highlands of Habish, being supposed to be the original country of this plant, which is there called chaat), and described the plant from personal observations made on the banks of the A'bea. The flower was white, resembling in general appearance the Abyssinian rose; but smaller in size, and growing in thick clusters in almost inaccessible precipices. One specimen was nearly, if not quite, twenty feet high.

The Rev. Mr. Badger remarked, that 'kat' in Arabic signified to divide or tear lengthways; and that, as a noun, 'kiddah' signified cassia (Exod. xxx. 24; Pa. xlv. 8; and Ezek. xxvii. 19). Bate thinks that 'kiddah' signifies, not cassia, but the poppy, from its hanging its head, as 'kad' also signifies that state. Dr. Camps remarked upon the difference of the known properties of cassia, an inferior kind of cinnamon, from the herb kat, or châst. Some surprise was felt that this curious plant had never been introduced into this country.

PARKER SOCIETY.

THE general meeting of this Society was held on the 18th ult.; Lord Ashley, president, in the chair. The report presented was of a satisfactory character, shewing that the income and expenditure of the year had each been about equal. It appears that the volumes for the year 1846 were four in number. 1. The remaining portion of the works of Bishop Coverdale. 2. Another volume of original letters, from the Archives of Zurich, and other repositories, written before the accession of Queen Elizabeth, which throw much light on the early progress of the Reformation in England. 3. Calhill's Answer to Martialis's Treatise on the Cross. 4. The concluding portion of the writings of Archbishop Cranmer, forming a complete edition of the works of the first Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury. Among the books for publication at an early period are the remaining volumes of Bishops Jewel and Hooper, Bullinger's Decades, Queen Elizabeth's Liturgies and occasional Services, some valuable unpublished letters, and Archbishop Parker's correspondence. The report strongly urges on the subscribers the necessity of being regular in their payments, as any delay in this respect naturally interrupts the harmony of the Society's proceedings; and concludes with expressions of satisfaction with the present and hopes for future prospects.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR

THE ENSUING WEEK:—

Monday.—Geographical, 8½ p.m.; British Architects, 8 p.m.
Tuesday.—Linnæan, 8 p.m.; Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.
Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 8 p.m.; Geological, 8½ p.m.
Thursday.—Royal, 8½ p.m.; Antiquaries, 8 p.m.
Saturday.—Asiatic, 2 p.m.

FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

Sculpture.

WE shall for once proceed to examine the works without abusing the "den," as we have good reason to know that ere long a better place will be provided.

No. 1315. "Virginius and his Daughter," a group. F. Mac Dowell, R.A.—We have often wondered a subject so choice and interesting as this remained untreated; but then our thoughts involuntarily wandered to the antique group of Hamon and Antigone, and it became a question what arrangement could be obtained so as to escape the charge of plagiarism. If we mistake not, Mr. Mac Dowell must have felt equally fettered in this respect, though of such a charge we at once acquit him, adding, at the same time, that his production gains greatly by comparison; and every one who has the power should compare the two, in order to justly estimate the difficulties with which he had to contend, and the genius that surmounted them. There can be no doubt but that this group displays talent of the very highest order; nothing, in fact, can well surpass the fire and energy of the father or the flesh-like modelling of Virginia. If we venture to point out an error or two, we are led to do so, not through the love of fault-finding, but with the desire of having a perfect whole whenever it may be translated into marble. The head of Virginius, then, strikes us as small in proportion to the size and weight of other parts, more particularly in the front view; but the most objectionable portion is that of the point of the knife being

held upwards. In the first place, it gives extreme length to the fore-arm, as the eye does not and cannot rest at the hand; and, secondly, it brutalises the act—it makes all the difference between sticking, with which we associate butchery, and the stab of self-defence: although the thing itself is none the less whichever way it may be done, yet had the point been downwards, the scene would have been less repugnant to the feelings, and the incident quite as well and more poetically told.

No. 1322. "Early Sorrow," a statue in marble, by the same.—A beautiful statue of a girl, holding a dead dove to her bosom, with which we are in raptures, as it appears to us to be the very perfection of youthful loveliness. Judging from the repeated attempts we have seen to portray this period of life, and the numberless failures bearing the titles of "Aurora," "Hebe," "Psyche," &c. &c., to achieve such positive success as in the present case must require no ordinary skill. In No. 1342, "Virginia," by E. G. Papworth, is not the girlish "Virginia" of the novelist, but a full developed little woman, and consequently not true to nature. For the qualities we have named, Mr. Mac Dowell's figure is contra-distinguished, and elevated above that and all others we have seen; so sweet, we scarcely know whether in the state of girl or womanhood to fix her; for

"twixt the two
She stands, as that were loth to lose her, this
To win her most impatient: the young year,
Trembling and blushing 'twixt the striving kisses
Of parting spring and meeting summer, seems
Her only parallel!"

W. C. Marshall, A., is always a contributor, always original, and always good. No. 1323, "The First Step," a mother teaching her child to walk, is a sweet piece of composition.—No. 1316, "Eurydice," though equally clever, is less to our taste.—No. 1320, "Sabrina," a statue in marble. The plaster statue came under our notice last exhibition; we then complained of the want of refinement about the extremities, the hands more particularly, and have yet to regret the same thing; otherwise it is as beautiful as can be desired.

No. 1317. "Comus offering the cup to the lady."—No. 1327. "The lady, seated in the enchanted chair, refusing the cup," both by E. B. Stephens.

Two marble statues: the only thing good is the lengthy quotation which accompanies them, for they are utterly wanting in all the attributes which should entitle them to the names they bear.

No. 1321. "The maid and the mischievous boy," a group in plaster, F. Thrupp.—We registered our opinion of this in the Art-Union competition for the prize of five hundred pounds.—No. 1387. "A boy catching a butterfly," a model in plaster by the same, is a complete failure.

No. 1324. "Marble group of the prodigal son," W. Theed, should have been called "The prodigal son's welcome." We find much truth and nature in the figures, the drapery very antique and good in effect, and as a whole highly creditable. We have before noticed very clever figures by this artist, but have always to condemn his portraits, as in the present instance of No. 1409, "Marble bust of a lady."

No. 1325. "Plaster group of Zephyr and Aurora," T. Earle. There is much to commend in this little group, and very much that might be better; Aurora wants youth, and is too womanish. No. 1333. "Marble statue of Pastorella," very carefully executed; but the hands are like crabs, and sadly disproportionate in reference to the head.—Of No. 1337. "Status—Genius receiving the reward" (query, Genius appropriating it to himself?), we have before spoken of this in the Art-Union competition.—No. 1412. "Marble bust of Thomas English, Esq., of Hull," also by Mr. Earle, is an extremely clever head.

No. 1326. "Madonna," J. Fillans.—A marble figure of the Virgin and Child. We confess to be scarcely able to understand what such slovenly execution can mean. We presume that the Madonna is either to be so placed that "distance lends

enchantment to the view," or that the artist can proceed so far with his work creditably, but wants equal or more ability to carry it to refinement and finish.

No. 1328. "Model of the statue of the late Lord Chief Justice Sir N. C. Tindall, in his judicial robes, intended to be executed in marble by subscription." E. H. Baily, R.A.—Some time since, when this statue was exhibited at the artist's studio, many of our contemporaries were very loud in their praises of its talent and originality. We declined giving our opinion while in a state of uncertainty, for we felt at first sight it was familiar to us; and now it is said—and no secret made of it—that it is a model by the elder Bacon, altered by Baily to his purpose, and not an original work. It may be remembered that, at the time, we expressed our pleasure on hearing that the models by the elder and younger Bacon had been purchased by Mr. Baily, and congratulated all lovers of art that they were in such hands for the sake of their preservation. The *love* (!) that exists between opera-singers and dancers, seems only paralleled when compared with painters, or sculptors; let but one be caught tripping, as it is said in this instance, and the town becomes placarded. We ourselves took the following bill, of large dimensions, from the walls of the Royal Academy:

MARBLE STATUE OF

SIR W. BLACKSTONE,
AT OXFORD.

LOST

THE ORIGINAL PLASTER
STATUE OF JUDGE BLACKSTONE,

MODELLED BY JOHN BACON,
The eminent Sculptor.

Information may be given at the Sculpture-room, Royal Academy, to E. H. BAILY, Esquire, who will receive Subscriptions for his Statue of the late

CHIEF JUSTICE

TINDALL.

"Necessitas non habet legem."

[Rich, Printer, Buckingham Place, New Road.

Our province is not now to discuss whether this be true or not, but to state facts and impressions. If it be true, it is very much to be regretted that an artist in Baily's position, who can do and has done so many beautiful things, should so far forget himself. If it be false, then the circulators of this placard deserve to be well punished for stating it to be either *Cabbage* or *Bacon*!

No. 1395. "Model of a Bronze Statue of the Earl of Auckland, to be erected on the Esplanade, Calcutta." H. Weekes.—There is a great want of shadow about this statue: it seems all surface, hard, and metallic. There is no relief in shadow, and it does not necessarily follow it should be so modelled because it has to be cast in bronze; for if we refer to that very excellent example, Pitt, by Chantrey, we find the opposite principle adopted with far finer effect. No. 1329. "Design for a monumental statue of the late Sir T. Powell Buxton," by Weekes also.—A very clever sketch offered in competition for the statue when Mr. Thrupp was the successful candidate. Having some knowledge of the powers of both gentlemen, we trust we may not have to refer to this sketch hereafter. No. 1429. "Marble bust of General Caulfield, C.B." is unquestionably one of the finest busts in the exhibition, and by Weekes.

By Mr. J. E. Jones we have No. 1332. "Morning Visitors," portraits; and 1389, "The Guardian, portraits of the children of W. McCormick, Esq."—Groups of children playing with dogs: when we remember the short period that this gentleman has turned his attention to sculpture, and that these are the first productions in figures that we have seen from him, we find talent that surprises us; the animals are very fine. He has his full quantum of marble busts; and 1361, the Hon. Miss

Copley, the daughter of Lord Lyndhurst, evinces much taste and delicate treatment.

No. 1334. "Satan falling from Heaven." A. Brown.—A successful accomplishment of a very bold undertaking. We may here also speak of 1391, "An Ancient Briton, as a Spy,"—G. G. Adams,—a nude figure, of much merit. Both these works are sure to find their way back to the study, where they may be seen years afterwards, and produced only to prove the power of the artists.

No. 1335. "Perdita." S. J. B. Haydon.—When Perdita delivers the lines which accompany this figure,

"Reverend sirs,
For you there's rosemary and rue,"

she is not seated as we here find her, but welcoming the guests to the sheep-shearing "jollity." Artists should read and understand before they embody; though in this case it matters little, as the figure is very indifferent.

No. 1339. "Model for a mural Monument," to be erected in the Savoy Chapel, by M. L. Watson, representing Dr. Archibald Cameron attending the wounded at the battle of Culloden. Dr. Cameron was afterwards executed in 1753, on a bill of attainder passed against him for being in the rebellion of 1745.

"His hand would stanch the blood of him who bled,
Were it for Brunswick or for Stuart shed."

The grouping and arrangement of this alto-relief are masterly; in fact, they display a perfect knowledge of art and its principles. The same author has several other small sketches, and all good.

No. 1341. "The working Model of a Monument to the late Mrs. Legard." J. Bell.—Scarcely supports the reputation this sculptor gained by his "Eagle Slayer," and appointment by the royal commission.

No. 1362. Marble bust of George Hudson, Esq., M.P. M. Noble.—Vulgar though it be, yet it is a clever refinement of the man, and remarkably like.

Behnes always manages to enrich the catalogue with the best and most prominent names, and we find, 1383, the Countess of Malmesbury; 1384, Benjamin Disraeli, Esq., M.P.; 1397, Count D'Orsay; 1398, the Common-Sergeant; 1402, Sir John Pirie, Bart.; 1438, Lord Chesterfield; 1439, Dr. Carpue. No man in busts ever contributes the same amount of worth, whether they be viewed as works of art or portraits. There is no mistaking them.

No. 1401. Part of a monument to the memory of James Brook, Esq. E. G. Physick.—Certainly the most affected thing we ever saw. A female and child forced into a strained attitude to receive a penny-loaf from a tip-toed, pedantic gentleman; with the old story of the broken column in the background. We really think that if such an absurdity should be erected to our memory, we should rise up in judgment against the evil-doers.

No. 1425. Marble bust of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (executed by command of the Queen). Mrs. Thorneycroft.—Placed in the centre of the room, the disproportionate pedestal gives a *petite* character to this sweetly-executed head. We saw, a short time since, four statues in progress, representing the seasons, by this lady. They are a commission from her Majesty, and represent the Princesses Royal and Alice, and the Princes of Wales and Alfred.

There is nothing else in the sculpture-room that calls for particular notice; but before we close this portion of our R. A. notice, we would make favourable mention of 1347, bust of Mrs. Angell, J. Edwards; 1390, a small equestrian bronze of the Marquis of Anglesey, E. Cotterill; 1422, a posthumous bust of Fielding the author, W. F. Woodington; and 1450, "Ianthe," W. Gray,—which are all very creditable performances.

Next week will enable us to go through the miniature and architecture rooms, and conclude

our notices of this year's exhibition; when we shall be able to devote more of our Fine Arts space to the opening of Westminster Hall, which will take place forthwith.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

Paris, June 7, 1847.

M. EMILE DE GIRARDIN, the chief editor of the *Presse*, is at this moment the object of a judicial prosecution, which is creating some sensation. The following are the circumstances in which this matter originated.

The journal *L'Epoque* had been established, as I told you at the time, with a view to giving the ministry a more sincerely devoted, and especially a cheaper, organ than the *Presse* for ministerial doctrines. That paper absorbed some considerable sums (more than a million of francs, so 'tis said); and yet, after lingering for about a year, and albeit supported by the resources of the Secret funds, they were compelled to discontinue its issue. M. de Girardin had even the good fortune to become its purchaser for about 50,000*fr.*, which were distributed amongst the creditors of the defunct paper.

Since he has no longer in dread before his eyes the competition of the *Epoque*, M. de Girardin, who, if we believe scandalous gossips, has drained the ministry of all available personal favour, has deemed it expedient, and especially opportune, to direct his attacks against it; to overthrow it; and then to work for his benefit the succeeding administration. Accordingly, and from one day to another, the *Presse* took rank amongst the bitterest organs of the Opposition.

The *Débats*, more faithful to M. Guizot, failed not in engaging in violent polemics with this new adversary, and talked with a certain degree of contempt of "his weak publication." M. de Girardin retorted, that his paper could not be so very weak, since the Cabinet had deemed it expedient to establish against it, at the cost of enormous sacrifices, a ruinous competition; that for this object no pains had been spared; that not only pecuniary succour had been granted to the *Epoque*, directly diverted from the Police funds, but that, in addition, disguised subsidies had been given to its editors, sometimes in the shape of a theatrical privilege, sold by them for ready cash; sometimes in the shape of other favours, which, either granted or promised, attracted the money of the shareholders into the coffers of the journal. Amongst these latter, he mentioned a promise of a peerage, made by the ministry, conditionally upon the payment of 80,000*fr.* (2400*l.*) into the coffers of the journal *L'Epoque*.

The ministry had taken no notice of this direct attack; but a few members of the Chamber of Peers saw in it an offence against the dignity of this venerable institution; and upon their motion, the Chamber, by a message, demanded of the Chamber of Deputies the right of citing to their bar M. Emile de Girardin, who is a member of the elective legislature, that he might be compelled to furnish proof of the facts alleged by him. The Chamber of Deputies has not yet determined whether it will grant the leave requested.

Here are, as to the facts of the case, the reports which are circulated, and which wear the most likely appearance. A rich banker, M. Benoit Fould, was threatened with the prospect of not being re-elected deputy by the college which usually sends him to the Chamber. He solicited a peerage. It would appear this was promised to him, although he professes the Jewish faith, upon the condition of his supporting the journal *L'Epoque*. Accordingly, he paid a first instalment of 30,000*fr.* to the founders of the publication; and he was preparing to complete the payment of the required 80,000*fr.*, when he was told, decidedly, that the high favour he thus hoped to purchase could not be conferred upon him.

This recalled to mind an anecdote well known

under the Restoration. M. de Rothschild, after having energetically supported M. de Villèle in all questions relating to the formation of the Three per Cent fund, fancied himself entitled to the unlimited gratitude of the Minister. He accordingly asked of him, without more ado, a seat in the Upper House for himself and his heirs. "Why, of course," said M. de Villèle, with his ironical chuckle; "what you require is most proper. We will make a peer of you—that is agreed;—but you will turn Christian." It is asserted that M. Rothschild had at first accepted the condition; but he afterwards recollected that his correspondence with his co-religionists was to him, as a banker, the best feather in his cap; and he did not renew his request, as, indeed, the wily Minister had foreseen. I hope that M. Disraeli is amongst your readers, and that he will descend upon this text in his next novel.

We have had at the Théâtre Français the first representation of a five-act tragedy written by one of the actors of that theatre, M. Beauvallet. It is not exactly, as in the charming comedy of the "Critic," a piece of scandalous gossip about Queen Elizabeth, but only about Robert Bruce, already placed on the scene at the Opera. Is it not a strange chance which has brought so many great minds to meet on the plains of Bannockburn? Let me tell you, but very briefly, how the poet-actor has understood his theme. He supposes that, after the assassination of Comyn in a church at Dumfries, Robert Bruce has been excommunicated. He is wandering amongst the Scotch mountains. One of the lords most intent upon his destruction is Lorn, whose sister, the fair Edith, is affianced to Ronald, Lord of the Isles, who in former times was much enamoured with Isabel, sister of Bruce. At the moment when the marriage ceremony is about to take place, a tempest compels two stray farers to seek shelter in the castle of the Lord of the Isles: no others than Robert Bruce and his sister, badly disguised; so it appears, for Ronald at once recognises his sovereign, now his guest, and, as such, sacred by the right of hospitality. He decides upon protecting him against all, even against Lorn, whose fierce hatred returned when he spied a chance of gratifying it. In vain does Ronald endeavour to favour the escape of the King. Lorn has dispersed his armed dependants through all the avenues of the castle. The two fugitives are compelled to return there; and men are beginning to draw their swords from the scabbard, when Robert Bruce, throwing himself between the dependants of Lorn and those of Ronald, makes a magnificent speech against England and its adherents. This is a grand resource for excommunicated monarchs and meagre tragedies. An abbot present at this scene immediately rescinds the excommunication which weighed over Robert Bruce, and thus restores to him royal authority. Lorn is furious at this unexpected result. The generous Isabel retires to a convent, that she may leave to Ronald the right of marrying Edith; but this noble sacrifice is of little avail. Lorn has challenged Ronald; he has branded him as a coward, and compelled him to engage in arms with him; in short, he has slain him, after having himself received a mortal wound. The affianced Edith joins in her convent the affianced Isabel. Bruce says, looking at the young girls, "Deux anges, désormais, prient pour nous."

The style of the tragedy is equal to its conception. It is a heap of all those common-places, classic or romantic, which M. Beauvallet has seen applauded during the twenty years that he has played all sorts of tragedies.

A little comedy, or rather a little fable, in one act and in verse, has achieved a qualified success—we will not say in the theatre of the Odéon, albeit it was there played, but in the *feuilletons* of the newspapers. The author—who is a marquis, and announced himself as such to the public—thus suddenly moved to merriment, has treated as a burlesque the old story of Damon and Pythias. He

supposes those two friends mightily tired of their heroic rôle, and of the reputation which their proverbial friendship has gained for them. Dionysius the Tyrant—whom the poet-marquis has intended to restore to fame—amuses himself with testing this boasted friendship. He sends Pythias to prison, as the author of some satirical verses, and then despatches a handsome courtesan, who promises to restore him to liberty if Damon will take his place. Damon accepts this splendid rôle, and Pythias does not blush to accept the noble mark of devotion. However, chance—which the public construes into friendship—brings him back to the quarries; and Dionysius the Tyrant ultimately reprieves, but banishes him, for the sake of Pythias. It is true that then, somewhat shamed by the royal jest, the two friends declare they will go together. A few easy verses, a little wit, and especially the absence of any disquieting degree of merit, have made the fortune of this trifle, much more vaunted than it deserves by men who would praise it less did it attest more real merit.

A witty woman, seated at a party opposite Bou Maza, our Arab prisoner, said, looking at his soft and yet terrible eyes, "Those are eyes we are used to see in cages."

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

SIR JOHN RENNIE'S SOIRÉE.

ON Saturday last, was again very numerous attended. So much so, indeed, that although the collection of models, new inventions, and works of art, exceeded any former display, and the arrangements were excellent, it was with some difficulty, and only after the exercise of great patience, that we could get near the several objects of interest. Out of the profusion of attractions, we can do no more than select two as examples: the *resilient atmospheric railway tube*, exhibited by Messrs. Clarke and Varley, and the *Cellini Plate*, by M. Piaget. The atmospheric tube, dispensing with the air valve now in use, is a 15-inch wrought-iron tube, one quarter of an inch in thickness. The longitudinal opening necessary for connecting the leading carriage with the piston, is simply a lateral aperture in the tube, the edges of which being planed perfectly true, form, by the elasticity of the iron itself, and the external pressure of the atmosphere, a perfectly air-tight joint. The method of opening is as follows: along the whole length of the tube, on each side, are continuous iron bars, pinned and keyed at intervals to it. Attached to the leading carriage is a frame, called the "traveller," in which four wheels revolve in pairs; and being somewhat wider than the bars are apart, force them open, and the tube with them; and consequently as the pressure on the piston draws the coupler (which is attached to the traveller), the carriage and train must follow. The coupler thus passes entirely free from friction; and the wheels of the traveller acting on a double-rolling motion, there is so little friction from that source, that it is said, half-a-pound per square inch on the piston is ample to allow for friction in every shape. Cellini Plate is the title given by M. Piaget to a most beautiful electro-metallurgic production—a gilded or silvered engraving in relief, applicable to a variety of ornamental purposes. The specimens submitted to us were intended for timepiece-cases; the subjects landscapes, public buildings, and palaces (an admirable view of Windsor Castle), flower and fruit groups, &c. &c. They bore a very high burnish polish, which the metal were informed, acquires in the deposit bath. That this must have been the fact was obvious,—the process could have been no other than *bright gilding*, for the delicate lines of the graver, or of the engine-turning, in some of the patterns, would have been destroyed by any mode of burnishing. The copper first deposited on the engraved silver model comes off with a polished surface, as in the ordinary electrotype, but the face of the metal appeared brighter, and the metal itself flexible and of a superior description to the common electro deposit. These

bright surfaces, whether of the copper, gold, or silver, are said to withstand the action of heat. We can only say that the production is novel, and of extreme beauty.

MUSIC.

The Music-Book. Parts VII. and VIII.

THE part for May completes the first volume of this enterprising publication in a manner worthy of the promises held out at its commencement. It contains a very sweet and simple Scottish ballad called "There's naeboddy now looking kindly on me;" the words by Mrs. Wills, and the air thoroughly Scotch and characteristic, by John Wilson. There is also a cachuca by Mr. R. Hughes. Part VIII. opens the second volume with a couple of songs by Vincent Wallace and Alex. Lee. The first reminds us forcibly in style of some of the music in *Mari-tana*, particularly by the frequent introduction of incidentals, is of a very agreeable character, and called "A lake and a fairy boat;" the poetry is selected from the writings of Hood. Alex. Lee's ballad is Alex. Lee's ballad all over; and when we recollect how many of that gentleman's charming songs have graced our piano, that is saying quite enough in its praise. It is in moderate time, and easy of execution; and "I love all that thou lovest" will certainly become a favourite.

Davidson's Complete Songs of Charles Dibdin, and Davidson's Universal Melodist. Davidson.

It would be quite superfluous to discuss the merits of Dibdin's songs at this time of day; and we have therefore only to notice the appearance of this edition, five of the parts of which are now before us. It is neatly got up in octavo form, and the principal songs have full pianoforte accompaniment, arranged under the supervision of Mr. Hogarth. The *Universal Melodist* is a companion work produced in the same form as the Dibdin, with the exception of the pianoforte accompaniments, which are omitted; and by this means we get a very large collection of songs in a very small space, with music enough for the voice to sing the airs.

Nicholson's Flute Preceptor modernized and enlarged.

Spohr's Violin Preceptor. Davidson.

SMALL, neat, and cheap editions of these well-known and celebrated instructors.

Handel's Songs, Duets, Trios, &c., with Pianoforte Accompaniments. Newly arranged by H. J. Gauntlett, Mus. Doc. Whitmore, and Houlston and Stoneman.

THE extraordinary increase of partial musical knowledge since the advent of Mainzer and Hullah, and the increased popular taste induced by monster bands and concerts, have led to a cheaper form of music than that hitherto the sole occupant of the field. We have already spoken of Dr. Gauntlett's editions of Handel's "Messiah" and Haydn's "Creation" with that praise to which they were entitled as good arrangements of the celebrated oratorios [L. G. No. 1572], and we have only to say the same of this first number of *Handel's Songs, &c.*—We have also two parts of Dr. Gauntlett's comprehensive *Tune Book* (same publishers), containing a large quantity of principally sacred music, before us. It is arranged in vocal score, and also with organ or pianoforte accompaniments.

Songs of the Birds. The Words and Melodies by C. B. Coles, with Pianoforte Accompaniments by H. Glover. Jefferys.

A GOOD idea nicely carried out; there are six songs in this volume, in five of which the birds sing their own "words," the sixth is in praise of the carrier pigeon. Some of the airs strike us familiarly, but they are none the worse for that, and we welcome them in their present shape, with Mr. Glover's accompaniments, as a very pretty musical singing book for young voices.

Hanover-Square Rooms. — Madame Dorus Gras, Herr Fischek, Mr. Wilson, John Parry, the Messrs. Distin, and B. Chatterton, assisted at the concert given on Tuesday by Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Seguin.

It was fully attended; and for pleasing variety of vocal music was one of the best concerts of the season.

Mad. Balfe's *Soirée Musicale*, in Store Street, on Wednesday evening, attracted a full and fashionable audience, who were charmed with the performance of many of Balfe's most popular compositions, as well as music of other masters. Lablache, Staudigl, Coletti, Gardoni, Bouche, Fraschini, and Castellan sustained the vocal parts with great effect; and the instrumental was on a par with them, Balfe presiding; the band of the Amateur Society contributing their aid; and Mr. Osborne, a clever pianist, displaying his great ability on that instrument.

Wilson's *Scottish Entertainments*. — Another attractive addition has been made to Mr. Wilson's already attractive *répertoire* in an "Evening with the Ettrick Shepherd," which he produced at Store Street on Monday week, and has repeated at other concert-rooms with great success since. The evening is made out entirely with Hogg's charming ballads, which are worthily rendered by the accomplished artist, and are received with the universal applause and appreciation which ought to wait upon such poetry, such music, and such singing!

VARIETIES.

Cremorne Gardens.—Since the last season these Gardens have undergone great alterations and improvements, including a new and commodious river-side entrance. On the several occasions on which we have visited them since their opening on Whit-Monday, we have found them quietly and well conducted, with plenty of amusement, both in the theatre and open air; and as they are closed at the early hour of eleven o'clock, a very pleasant afternoon and evening may be passed away, and home reached by midnight. Last Monday, Mr. Green, "the veteran aeronaut," as he is justly called, made one of the most beautiful ascents we ever witnessed in the "Nassau" balloon, accompanied by our facetious friend, Albert Smith, and a party consisting chiefly of literary men, who, we hear, enjoyed their trip amazingly.

Royal Botanic Society.—The Promenade on Wednesday was favoured by fine weather, and was a very gay and interesting scene. Beauty, not unadorned, nor unattended, crowded the spacious grounds; and the show of flowers was hardly less captivating. Some were perfect masses of blossoms of every hue; others were strange shapes, as if insect had been transformed into floral life. Plants from Mexico and Brazil were among the most curious—the stanhopia being at the head of the list. Pelargoriums, orchids, azaleas, geraniums, and many a hard-named specimen delighted the sight or smell. Regimental bands were stationed in several parts, and played alternately. In short, a more agreeable and splendid concourse can hardly be imagined.

Professor Agassiz writes to Sir R. Murchison, from America, that he has traced a close analogy between the fossil Flora of the European miocene deposits and the living Flora of the temperate parts of the United States; and also a close affinity between the Flora of the Atlantic shores and that of Japan.

Dr. Carpenter has been elected Geological Lecturer on Dr. G. Swiney's foundation for the British Museum; but he is to find his own place to lecture in, and some other strange regulations are attached to the appointment.

The late Mr. Sharon Turner and the Royal Society of Literature.—At the last meeting, on Thursday, Mr. Hallam, President, in the chair, about seventy half-bound volumes of Newspapers, complete from 1792 to 1830, and others not so regular, were presented to the Society by Mr. Alfred Turner, son of the late historian, as a bequest from his father. This grateful recollection of it by one of its earliest and most highly esteemed honorary associates gave much interest to the meeting, and the President acknowledged it in a very feeling manner. Dr.

Todd, the editor of *Johnson's Dictionary*, had formerly presented a large collection of philological works; and such gifts add much value to the growing library of the Society.

Mr. Charles Knight has addressed a very sensible letter to the *Times*, in which, instead of a fanciful fountain and lamp-post, as suggested by Mr. Milman, he proposes that a statue of Caxton (copied from the old woodcut and received likeness of him) should be erected, as has been done for Gutenberg in Germany; and small copies might be executed and circulated throughout the land in distinct honour of the man who introduced printing into England, instead of symbols, which might be applicable to any other person who had enlightened their species.

The Wellington Statue.—It has been finally determined to remove the statue from the arch; and as a soothing compliment to the Duke of Wellington, Lord Morpeth stated in the House of Commons, that her Majesty has signified her pleasure, when the House should be pleased to vote the sum necessary for the completion of the arch, that any decorations which might still have to be added should be illustrative of the achievements of the Duke, and should be such as might serve to mark the sense which the country entertained of his exploits and his deserts. The statue will probably be placed in St. James's Park, on a fitting pedestal designed by the artist, where it may be viewed at a proper height and in a proper light.

Monsieur Soyer.—A grand feast was given to M. Soyer at the London Tavern this week; and a social day was spent with the honoured and philanthropic cook, whose own *cuisine* was equalled on the occasion by that of Messrs. Bathe and Breach.

The Potato Disease has become visible in some parts of Ireland; and the Agricultural Society has met and circulated some useful advice to the cultivators throughout the country. Where the disease is decided, the immediate substitution of a crop of Swedish or Aberdeen turnips is recommended.

Princess's.—Mr. Macready's nights, including the *Bridal*, strongly cast on Wednesday, have afforded the public opportunities for shewing that the love of the legitimate drama and the display of high histrionic genius is far from being extinct amongst us. The house has been full every evening, and the applause fervent at every "stroke of art."

French Plays.—Two new vaudevilles have been successfully brought out this week. *Une Femme qui se jette par la Fenêtre* is the name of the one, and *L'Arlequin* 213 of the other. Both are cleverly played, and Mdlle. Duvergier is their life.

The Amateur Dramatic performances at the St. James's Theatre netted 1400*l.* for the relief funds of Ireland and Scotland, between which it has been equally divided.

An Academy of Sciences has been created at Vienna, by patent from the Emperor.

Algeria Improvements.—The *Touonnais* of the 3d instant announces, that the Minister of War has commissioned M. Lefevre, who is at present travelling in Eastern Africa, to engage several Abyssinians, reputed the best agriculturists, to be located in Algeria.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Materials for a History of Oil-Painting, by C. L. Eastlake, 8vo, 1*l.* 6*s.*—From Oxford to Rome, 2d edit. 12mo, 6*s.*—Lawton's Elodie, and other Poems, 12mo, 6*s.*—Marcel's Willy's Travels on the Railroad, 18mo, half bd., 2*s.* 6*d.*—Wilderforce's Christianity, 32mo, 2*s.*—The Early Days of Faith and Love, 18mo, 3*s.* 6*d.*—Derry, by Charlotte Elizabeth, 10th edit. 12mo, 6*s.*—Nineteen Sermons, by the Rev. M. J. Taylor, B.A., 12mo, 6*s.*—Pope's Works, royal 18mo, illustrated, 5*s.*—Hugh Talbot, by Nell Daunt, post 8vo, 7*s.* 6*d.*—Church Melodies, by Viscount Massereene Ferrard, post 8vo, 7*s.* 6*d.*—Doctor Syntax in search of the Picturesque, 32mo, 2*s.*—The Scripture Testimony to the Messiah, by J. P. Smith, 4th edit. 3 vols. 8vo, 24*s.*—Castles in the Air: a Novel, by Mrs. Gore, 3 vols. post 8vo, 1*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*—Bashforth's Tables for Calculation of Earth-

work for Railways, 8vo, 7*s.* 6*d.*—Florilegium Poeticum; a Selection of English Poetry, 12mo, 3*s.* 6*d.*—T. Gaskin's Solutions of Trigonometrical Problems at St. John's, Cambridge, 1839 to 1845, 9*s.*—Gauguin's Crochet Miscellany, 1*s.* 6*d.*—Phillimore on the Law of Domestics, 8vo, 9*s.*—A Voice from Oxford, by the Rev. J. Spence, M.A., fep. 3*s.*—A History of the British Zoophytes, by Dr. Johnston, 2 vols. 8vo, 2*l.* 2*s.*; royal 8vo, 4*l.* 4*s.*—E. Johnson on Life, Health, and Disease, 9th edit. post 8vo, 3*s.* 6*d.*—Dr. J. Tunstall's Rambles about Bath, fep. 8vo, 6*s.*—J. J. Macintyre on the Electric Franchise, 12mo, 3*s.* 6*d.*—Journey to Damascus, by Viscount Castlereagh, 2 vols. post 8vo, 34*s.*—Gilbert's Modern Atlas, imp. 4to, 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*—Researches on the Chemistry of Food, by Justus Liebig, M.D., edited by W. Gregory, M.D., 8vo, 3*s.* 6*d.*—E. Lee's Hydropathy and Homeopathy impartially appreciated, 3d edit. post 8vo, 3*s.* 6*d.*—On Dyspepsia, by J. B. Steward, M.D., post 8vo, 4*s.*—Echoes from the Backwoods, by Capt. Levinge, 2d edit. in 1 vol. post 8vo, 1*l.* 6*s.*—History of Margaret Catchpole, 5th edit. post 8vo, 10*s.* 6*d.*—The Philosophy of Geometry, by A. C. G. Jobert, French and English, 2 parts, each 5*s.* 6*d.*; in 1 vol., 10*s.* 6*d.*—The Sojourn of a Sceptic in the Land of Darkness, by the Rev. P. H. Waddell, post 8vo, 4*s.* 6*d.*—The Danger of Uncertain Sound, with reference to the Rev. Mr. Pusey's Sermon on the Rev. Franchise, 12mo, 6*s.*—C. B. Clayton's Law of Landlord and Tenant, 2mo, 4*s.*—Arran: a Poem, and Excursions to Arran, by the Rev. David Landborough, 12mo, 5*s.* 6*d.*—History of the Mission of the Secession Church to Nova Scotia, by the Rev. J. Robinson, 12mo, 3*s.* 6*d.*—Knox's (Wm.) Poems, 12mo, 5*s.*—Sermons by the Rev. R. Coult, with preface by Dr. Chalmers, 3d edit. 12mo, 5*s.*—Scriptura's Teaching, by the Rev. W. Blackley, 12mo, 5*s.*—Walker's Manly English, 8th edit. 12mo, 6*s.* 6*d.*—Faust; translated by L. Filmore, 12mo, 4*s.* 6*d.*—Christ in his Passion, by the Rev. G. Trevor, M.A., 12mo, 3*s.* 6*d.*—Sponsor's Offering, by a Member of the Church of England, 12mo, 5*s.*—Irish Scenes 18 years ago, 18mo, 2*s.*

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.

[This table shews the time when a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1847.	h. m. a.	1847.	h. m. a.
June 13 . . .	11 59 31.5	June 16 . . .	12 0 11.9
13 . . .	59 33.9	17 . . .	0 34.8
14 . . .	59 46.4	18 . . .	0 27.9
15 . . .	59 59.1		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

Athenaeum, 7th June, 1847.

Sir,—The readiness you ever evince to do justice to the claims of literature and its distinguished votaries, without reference to nation or denomination, induces me to solicit your attention and that of the public to an inaccuracy on the part of Mr. Austin in the title she has thought proper to give to her translation of the learned Prof. Ranke's *Deutsche Geschichte in Zeitaltern der Reformation*. Instead of entitling the book according to the fact, and the original author's intention, as *The History of Germany during the period of the Reformation*, Mrs. Austin has designated it by the title only of "The Reformation;" thus giving a false colour to the work by bringing it in unfair competition with other publications bearing the same title, and specially limited to the same object. Had Prof. Ranke intended to write a history of the Reformation, his work would, of course, have been very differently planned; and he has thus by the act of his translator incurred with apparent justice critical animadversion on the part of the English reader as embarrassing a supposed mere history of the Reformation with facts, details, and disquisitions, applicable to the general occurrences in Germany during the sixteenth century; and so the fair fame of the Professor as a faithful but concise historian has been compromised, by inducing the erroneous preliminary impression, that the Reformation being the sole subject of inquiry has been unnecessarily rendered subservient to extraneous purposes of national history. Most probably, for Mrs. Austin's and her book-seller's purposes, "The Reformation" may have been devised as the more taking, or rather selling, title, and accordingly calculated to be more popular in England than any portion of German history could well become; but it is scarcely fair so to sacrifice an author of high repute to the cupidity of his translator or her publisher. Prof. Ranke's well-earned and extensive European reputation as the author of the *History of the Pope*, and other valuable historical researches, might suffice to exempt him from the injurious consequences of the misnomer in question; yet the considerable reputation enjoyed by his ingenious translator, Mrs. Austin, renders it the more incumbent on those who value foreign literary work to vindicate him from the censure which her mis-translation of the title of his last work published in our country is calculated to promote.—I am, &c.

M. M. M.

Battle of Waterloo.—J. W. S. That honourable mention of the studies afforded by Captain Siborne's model for Mr. Sidney Cooper's admirable picture, noticed in our last No., was simply owing to our not going into historical details, and not to any thought of detracting from a work which was, when exhibited, so warmly eulogised in our pages.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PATENT WATCHES AND CLOCKS.

E. J. DENT, by Appointment, Watchmaker to the Queen, respectfully solicits from the Public an inspection of his stock of WATCHES, which has been greatly increased to meet the many purchases at this season of the Year. The "FARMER'S SEVENTEEN SOA" is peculiarly adapted for the nursery, for infants. The "FARMER'S SEVENTEEN SOA" is peculiarly adapted for the nursery, for infants. The "FARMER'S SEVENTEEN SOA" is peculiarly adapted for the nursery, for infants.

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30	£ 1 4 11	£ 2 9 10	40	£ 1 19 7	£ 2 5 6	50	£ 4 1 6 0
35	£ 1 8 1	£ 3 10 0	45	£ 2 2 6	£ 3 10 0	55	£ 5 1 6 0
40	£ 1 13 3	£ 3 6 6	50	£ 2 10 0	£ 3 17 8		
45	£ 1 19 6	£ 3 19 0					
50	£ 2 7 9	£ 4 15 6					
55	£ 2 18 10	£ 5 17 8					

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By order of the Board,

JAMES WILLIAM GILBERT, General Manager.

TO VISITORS TO THE CONTINENT.

And to ARTISTS.—Messrs. J. and R. McCRACKEN, Foreign Agents, and Agents to the Royal Academy, 7 Old Jerry, beg to remind the Nobility, Gentry, and Artists, that they continue to receive Consignments of Objects of Fine Arts, Baggage, &c. from all parts of the Continent, for clearing their duties at the Custom-House, and that they undertake the Shipment of Effects to all parts of the world.

Lists of their Correspondents abroad, and every information, may be had on application at their Office as above. Also in Paris, at M. H. Chene, No. 33 Rue Croix des Petits Champs, established upwards of 50 years, Packer and Custom-House Agent to the French Court and to the Musée Royale.

THE QUEEN'S CONCERT ROOMS,
HANOVER SQUARE.—Mr. ROBERT GREEN (Pupil of M. Benedetti and M. Leopold de Meyer) has the honour to announce, that he will give a GRAND EVENING CONCERT at the above Rooms, on FRIDAY, June 25, 1847.

VOCALISTS.—Madame Caradori Allan, Miss A. Williams, Miss M. Williams, and Miss Dolly; Signor Brizzi, Mr. Henry Phillips, and Mr. John Pury.

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CONDUCTORS.—Messrs. Benedict, Robert Green, and Jules de Glimon. Particulars will be duly announced.

Tickets, 7s. each; Reserved seats, 10s. 6d. each. To be had of the principal Music-sellers, and of Mr. Robert Green, 69 Newman Street, Oxford Street, and Montague House, Eitham, Kent.

COLLEGE OF PRECEPTORS.—The HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the College of Preceptors will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, on Monday, the 21st day of June. The chair will be taken at 12 o'clock.

JOHN PARKER, Sec.

Offices, 42 Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury.

COLLEGE OF PRECEPTORS.—The Board of Examiners appointed by this Institution will commence the EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES, at St. Peter's Collegiate School, Eaton Square, Piccadilly, on Tuesday, June 22, at 9 o'clock A.M. Assistant-masters and teachers of modern languages are informed that the Secretary has numerous applications for well qualified teachers who have received the College certificate.—Offices, 42 Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury.

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LITERATURE AND ART.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS OPENED their THIRTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION on MONDAY 19th April, Catalogue, 55 PALL MALL, near St. James's Palace.

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BRITISH ASSOCIATION for the ADVANCEMENT of SCIENCE.—The next Meeting will be held at OXFORD, and will commence on WEDNESDAY, the 23d of JUNE, 1847.

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ONE THOUSAND POUND PRIZE PICTURE. Subject: BAPTISM OF OUR SAVIOUR BY IMMERSION. Mr. EDWARD ROBERTSON (son of the late Andrew Robertson, Esq., the eminent Miniature Painter of Aberdeen and London), having been deprived of his successful election by his votes being left open—*held open—or held up to view, and becoming known, while two-thirds of the other Artists had still to give in their votes*—also, by other unfair proceedings, including about one-third of the Artists in withdrawing from the election altogether, who all intended to vote for Mr. E. R.'s Picture—the therefore HERBY declares the Adjudication of the Prize, according to the old circular, to have now become impracticable, incompetent, and self and void. And reserving himself all his rights, should the matter now be settled by ballot, he in the mean time is prepared to receive Proposals for said Picture. It is adapted for a Nobleman's Gallery, or for Speculators in Exhibitions at home in America. The picture measures 10 feet by 14, and may be seen daily at the Chinese Room, Hyde Park Corner, London. N.B. It can only be properly seen from the wall of the recent opposite. This picture occupied the Artist many months of study, and among the unsolicited eulogiums that have appeared in the Periodicals are—the freedom of handling—the variety of character in the figures—the richness of colouring, &c.

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